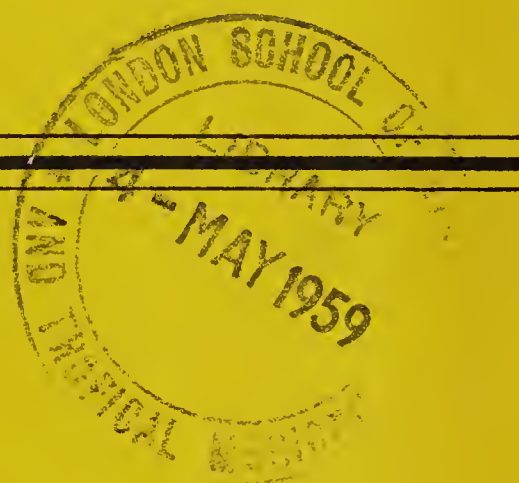




Sierra Leone

1957



LONDON

HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

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SIERRA LEONE

Report for the year
1957

LONDON

HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
1959

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PART I

General Review

PRIDE of place in any general review of the year's events in Sierra Leone must be given to Sierra Leone's first General Election held in May. Full details are given in Part III, Chapter 3, and it is sufficient to record here that the election itself was an unqualified success and with only few and minor exceptions was conducted in an atmosphere of goodwill.

The patience and good humour of the Freetown voters were particularly praiseworthy in that the day on which the election was held was one of the hottest of the year, and was at the peak of the territory's worst water shortage for 21 years.

The reports of the three Commissioners of Enquiry referred to in the opening paragraph of the 1956 report were presented to the Government in January, and as a result five Paramount Chiefs were deposed, two resigned, two were required to resign, one was suspended indefinitely, one was required to refrain from exercising his functions for a period, and four were exonerated. Meanwhile the implementation of the earlier Cox Report and the concomitant restoration of law and order in the Northern Province continued.

Although conditions had not fully returned to normal in many parts of the Northern Province, there was a marked general improvement, and as a welcome change from 1955-56 the year passed without any major civil disturbance. In the erstwhile disturbed areas most of the 1956 tax had been collected by the end of the year, and most of the 1957 tax in other areas. Progress in implementing the Cox Report included the enactment of Chiefdom bye-laws to legalise certain types of fees and the appointment of a Committee to investigate the operation of the Local Tax Ordinance. Legislation was also passed enabling District Commissioners to exercise certain advisory and supervisory functions in relation to District Councils and at the same time relieving them of their duties as ordinary members of the Councils. A number of Chiefdom Councils and Committees have been established and several Paramount Chiefs have withdrawn from the Presidency of Chiefdom Courts. Proposals for the improvement of the Chiefdom Messenger Forces were almost complete by the end of the year.

The Alluvial diamond mining scheme, i.e. diamond mining by individual Sierra Leoneans, continued to prosper. Eleven more chiefdoms were declared to be Licensed Alluvial Diamond Mining Areas, and new Diamond Industry Protection Rules were drawn up and put into force. Despite the success of the alluvial scheme,

illicit mining continued, mostly by "strangers"—from other parts of Sierra Leone and culminated in August in an attack on the Sierra Leone Selection Trust's plant at Koidu and on several of their leased areas. A special operation was mounted to evict the intruders and eventually to remove from the diamond areas the numerous "strangers" involved in illicit mining. Helped by the co-operation of the Kono chiefs and headmen, the operation was a complete success, and by the end of the period under report, life in the mining areas had returned to normal.

ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

The general prosperity of the country continued at a high level for the greater part of the year and was again due in large measure to diamond mining operations though the Suez crisis contributed to some extent in the early part of the year, many ships being diverted to the port of Freetown for bunkers and general supplies.

During the last quarter, the expulsion of "strangers" from the illicit diamond mining areas and the deportation of a number of prominent Lebanese traders was a severe setback to the illicit diamond market; this was reflected in trade generally which was not so brisk as in the earlier part of the year.

The value of imports exceeds that of exports by approximately £10,000,000, and this unfavourable balance gives some indication of the scale of income from illicit diamond mining operations. The value of mineral exports again exceeded those of agricultural products, the excess being approximately £7,000,000. Agricultural production for export decreased, mainly due to a continued fall in the production of the principal export crop, palm kernels. There were smaller reductions in the quantity and value of exports of piassava, kola nuts, and ginger. No benniseed or groundnuts were exported. Only in the case of coffee was there an increase.

It was necessary to import rice and palm oil because local production was insufficient to meet the demand for these staple foodstuffs. Due to inadequate fruit supplies the oil mills operated by the Sierra Leone Produce Marketing Board continued to work far below capacity and through lack of raw materials the plant for the expression of groundnut oil was idle throughout the year. Two rice drying plants were erected during the year to increase production of parboiled paddy and to enable rice to be dried during the rainy season.

DEVELOPMENT

The staff position in the Public Works Department reached a low ebb during the year, and Port Loko Division had to be closed for some months. It was not until November that it was possible to post an Executive Engineer to the Division to re-open it. During the period when no Engineer was available, the Division was kept on a care and maintenance basis administered from Makeni.

The Roads Division of the Public Works Department was founded in January for the purpose of undertaking the reconstruction of the Bo-Freetown road. The greater part of the year was occupied in building up the organisation and assembling plant. By December, approximately $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles of surface were ready to receive bitumen.

The Blackhall Road stone quarry in Freetown was, after release by the contractors who constructed the Queen Elizabeth II Quay, brought under departmental control, and an immediate improvement was noticeable in the quality of the aggregate available for road work, with a consequent improvement in road surfacing.

The major bridge-building programme was concluded during the year by the completion of the Bumpe and Kunshu bridges.

Work on the Bandajuma-Potoru road was continued by the District Council Works Officer under supervision, and the Public Works Department was required to undertake the supervision and control of substantial bands of labour returned from the diamond areas.

Approximately £489,000 was spent on buildings during the year, and this included hospitals, health centres, colleges and schools.

Plans for the extension of the apron at Lungi Airport were completed during the year and are ready for work to be put in hand. The Magburaka grass airfield was restored to a serviceable condition.

The construction of the Freetown Water Supply continued and the Wilberforce reservoir was completed.

Work on the distribution main between Wilberforce and Tower Hill was up to schedule and in all about £336,000 was spent, including the final settlement of the first contract and other ancillary works.

The Air Survey of some 13,000 square miles of the Territory arranged by the Directorate of Overseas Surveys, for which two Colonial Development and Welfare grants amounting to £26,000 from the central allocation for Geodetic and Topographical Surveys (Schemes Nos. D.2690 and D.2690A) were made, was continued up to the 31st March when the contract expired. Unfortunately, as so often in the past, conditions were bad for photography during most of the time when the survey aircraft was stationed in the country, with the result that little more than 3,000 square miles of satisfactory cover was obtained.

To enable the air survey work to be continued, a further grant of £28,000 from the central Colonial Development and Welfare allocation was made during the year (Scheme D.3180) and a contract was placed with Fairey Air Surveys Limited, whose aircraft arrived in time to begin new operations just before the end of the year.

The school building programme showed a marked advance on that of previous years.

Work continued on the following major development schemes: the extension to the Freetown Secondary School for Girls (the new

boarding block is expected to be ready for use early in 1958); the re-housing of St. Edward's Secondary School; the teacher training colleges at Kenema (women), Bo (men), Njala (men) and Bunumbu (men and women) and Christ the King Secondary School, Bo. Work was also continued at the Technical Institute, Freetown and the Technical Institute, Kenema. One of the completed projects at the Freetown Institute is a new block of five rooms as the first stage of a Secondary Technical School. The Principal, his staff and students are responsible for carrying out the work at both Institutes.

During the year work was started on the reconstruction of the Methodist Girls' High School, Freetown, and two modern primary schools; the cost of these projects is estimated at about £96,000 and they are being financed mainly from the Colonial Development and Welfare allocation to Sierra Leone. All three schools are expected to be ready and in use by the middle of 1958.

In December, contracts were signed for building a new secondary school at Port Loko and an extension to the Albert Academy, Freetown, at an estimated cost of £128,000, a large percentage of which will be met by allocations from Colonial Development and Welfare funds.

Plans were prepared for two new schools in the provinces and large scale extensions to four schools, three in the provinces and one in the colony.

At Fourah Bay College, the first phase of the building programme is well under way. Most of the laboratories are nearing completion and a number of the senior staff quarters are completed and occupied.

In the year under review, the Secretary of State gave approval to several Colonial Development and Welfare schemes relating to the first phase of development of the permanent college. Among these were:

	£
Housing site development	67,230
Playing fields	3,600
Additional water storage	20,000
Applied science laboratories	12,000
New telephone system	5,400

Details of Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes which were either initiated or in progress during the year are contained in the following table:

Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes Initiated or in Progress during 1957

General Review

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<i>Scheme No.</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Total Expenditure to 31st December, 1957</i>		<i>Amount Qualified for C.D. and W.</i>		<i>Colony Share</i>	
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
D. 866	Protectorate Health Centres	77,675	8 2	77,006	18 2	668	10 0
D.1048/A	Central Geological Survey	170,301	19 0	68,039	0 0	102,262	19 0
D.1269	Library Grants	2,749	11 10	2,749	11 10	—	—
D.1293/A	Extension of Government Secondary School, Bo	150,358	3 6	149,230	0 0	1,128	3 6
D.1372	Establishment of Central Schools in the Protectorate	67,588	0 3	55,000	0 0	12,588	0 3
D.1641	Health Centres Colony	23,852	13 2	23,852	13 2	—	—
D.1867	Improvement of Literature Distribution	6,500	0 0	6,500	0 0	—	—
D.1994	Construction of 4 hospitals in the Protectorate	189,431	1 8	189,431	1 8	—	—
D.1995	Replacement of 10 Ferries by Road Bridges	521,529	9 6	400,160	14 6	121,368	15 0
D.1996	Construction of 106 miles of New Road	93,631	5 2	93,631	5 2	—	—
D.2183	Construction of Bo Water Supply	254,991	10 4	40,000	0 0	214,991	10 4
D.2219	Kambia and Port Loko Hospitals	37,806	17 6	37,806	17 6	—	—
D.2405	Tuberculosis Sanatorium at Lakka	11,490	11 7	11,490	11 7	—	—
D.2690	Aerial Survey of Parts of Sierra Leone	22,636	13 7	22,636	13 7	—	—
D.2810	Construction of two major Bridges	477,211	1 8	376,490	0 0	100,721	1 8
D.2865	Extensions to Princess Christian Hospital	9,314	16 5	6,986	2 4	2,328	14 1
D.2917	Provision for building and equipping laboratories for the Faculty of Applied Science F.B.C.	19,500	0 0	7,312	0 0	12,188	0 0
D.2980	Development of Staff Site at Fourah Bay College	60,000	0 0	54,000	0 0	6,000	0 0
D.2981	Laying out and construction of tennis court and playing fields	3,000	0 0	2,700	0 0	300	0 0
D.2974	Provision of additional Water Storage capacity and new mains supply at F.B. College	26,500	0 0	26,500	0 0	—	—
D.3006	Installation of a new water distribution system	6,500	0 0	5,850	0 0	650	0 0
D.3032	Cattle owner settlement	9,990	14 6	8,592	0 6	1,398	14 0
D.3050	Appointment of Staff (Building and Maintenance) F.B. College	5,750	0 0	5,175	0 0	575	0 0

<i>Scheme No.</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Total Expenditure to 31st December, 1957</i>			<i>Amount Qualified for C.D. and W.</i>			<i>Colony Share</i>		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
D.3055	Establishment of a cacao and coffee experimental Station	1,004	4	5	783	5	10	220	18	7
D.3062	Musaia Animal Husbandry	5,498	15	8	4,783	18	10	714	16	10
D.3075	Visit of Irrigation and Drainage Adviser	2,622	7	3	455	0	0	2,167	7	3
D.3094	Soil Survey of Boli Lands	1,882	6	1	760	10	4	1,121	15	9
D.3112	Installing a new Telephone System at F.B. College	2,160	12	5	1,944	11	2	216	1	3
R.273/A	West African Fisheries Research Institute	243,725	11	10	123,749	19	3	119,975	12	7
R.300/A	Rice Research Station Rokupr	152,045	10	8	113,700	0	0	38,345	10	8
R.585	Control of Infestation in Stored Rice	4,494	1	6	4,494	1	6	—		
R.811	Systematic Botanist and Ecologist	47	12	2	23	16	1	23	16	1

PART II

Chapter 1 : Population

No full census of the population in the Colony area of Sierra Leone has been taken since 1931, but an enumeration was carried out on 28th December, 1947; population estimates for the Protectorate, based on test counts carried out in selected areas, were made in 1931 and in June, 1948.

The latest estimate of the total population for the whole territory was 2,100,000 at 30th June, 1956.

The results of the 1947 enumeration indicated that since 1931 there had been an annual increase in the population of the Colony of approximately 1.5 per cent. How much of this increase was due to immigration from the Protectorate and how much to natural causes cannot be definitely stated, though there was undoubtedly a large influx of labour to the Colony from the Protectorate during the war years, and it is probable that a number of immigrants did not return home. The rate of increase of the population in the Protectorate between 1931 and 1948 was about 2 per cent per annum, though it must again be emphasised that these figures should be treated with caution.

In Sierra Leone there are Africans of many tribes, thirteen of which are indigenous, each having a different language. There are no recent estimates of the numbers in these tribes, but it may be said that over 30 per cent of the total African population in the territory is of the Mende tribe, and that just under 30 per cent is of the Temne tribe. The Mende and Temne languages are widely spoken in the south and north respectively, and for all practical purposes are sufficient for the localities concerned. The only lingua franca is a form of pidgin English, which is fairly widespread, though by no means universal.

The registration of births and deaths which has been compulsory in the Colony for some years was made compulsory in seven chiefdoms in the Protectorate in 1957, and up to December, 1957, 125 more chiefdoms had voluntarily accepted registration. The registrations recorded in the Colony are fairly accurate in Freetown and some villages, but those recorded in the Protectorate are unreliable.

The figures for 1957 were:

	BIRTHS			DEATHS		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Freetown . . .	2,007	1,911	3,918	1,230	964	2,194
Rest of the Colony	862	870	1,732	848	700	1,548
TOTALS . . .	2,869	2,781	5,650	2,078	1,664	3,742

In Freetown, 553 deaths of children under one year of age were registered in 1957, giving an infant mortality rate of 141.14 per thousand; 51.5 per cent of the deaths occurred during the first month of life. These crude rates are, however, affected both by the presence of a large maternity home in Freetown and probably by under registration of births.

More detailed figures are given in Chapter 7, pages 69—70.

The population of Freetown is approximately 80,000 although there are indications that this may be an underestimate. Figures are not available for the main towns in the Protectorate but it is estimated that Bo, the largest town, has a population of between 20,000 and 30,000.

Chapter 2 : Occupations, Wages and Labour Organisation

EMPLOYMENT

A major part of the working population is engaged in agriculture on its own account. Wage-earners are mainly employed as follows:

Mining	6,900
Maritime and Waterfront	8,000
Railway (Government)	5,900
Building and Construction	9,800
Road Transport	1,200
Commercial and clerical workers	5,400

The total number of wage-earners is estimated at between 75,000 and 80,000, of which the overwhelming majority is male; females are, however, being increasingly employed as clerks, teachers, shop assistants and bus conductresses. There were no significant fluctuations in employment throughout the year.

The monthly average of unemployed persons registered at employment exchanges during 1957 was 1,543, compared with 914 in 1956. This is equivalent to 2 per cent of the wage-earning population and 0.08 per cent of the total population of 2 million, and includes a certain amount of seasonal unemployment of peasant farmers who at certain times of the year seek wage-earning employment in urban areas. Under-employment is not one of the territory's problems.

To help the unemployed persons to obtain jobs there are six employment exchanges in the Colony Area and the Provinces,

three of which were first opened during the year. One of the new exchanges was opened at Hastings in the Colony Area, 14 miles from Freetown, where the Admiralty planned to carry out a large building programme, another at Koidu in the Kono District in the South-Eastern Province (a diamond area) as part of the emergency operation and the third for the same purpose at Makeni in the Bombali District in the Northern Province. The need for the latter two exchanges, which was unforeseen at the beginning of the year, arose from the serious situation created by the influx of "strangers" (*i.e.* persons not of the district) into the diamond area of the Kono District and the threat to law and order as well as to health which their presence in the area constituted. The majority of the indigenous strangers was known to come from the Northern Province and it became necessary to rehabilitate these people in their home area with the minimum of delay.

They had, however, gone to the Kono district for the purpose of engaging in illicit diamond digging and dealing, and were reluctant to return home or leave the district unless some form of wage-earning employment was made available to them.

The Freetown and Hastings employment exchanges operate on the basis of a legal restriction on engagement, which imposes on all employers of ten or more persons in the Colony Area the obligation of engaging industrial workers only through those exchanges. In the other employment exchanges there is no such restriction, but employers are naturally encouraged to make as much use of them as possible. The six employment exchanges were able to fill 5,836 vacancies; 605 vacancies were cancelled for various reasons after they had been notified. A substantial number of the cancellations was in respect of the following trades and occupations in which very few persons of an acceptable standard were registered for employment: copy typist and shorthand-typist; auto-electrician, carpenter, mason, motor mechanic, sheet metal worker, tinsmith, turner and welder.

As in 1956, but on a very much reduced scale, a number of immigrants entered the territory irregularly during the year for the purpose of engaging in illicit diamond mining and found their way mainly to the diamond areas of the Kono District and the Kenema District. The majority of them came from the neighbouring territories of French West Africa, and in the latter part of the year it became necessary in the circumstances mentioned above, to expel them from the territory. In addition, a few persons are known to have come from the adjacent territory of Liberia on an individual basis in search of employment as sea-going labourers. This type of migration is a normal feature in the territory; for very many years past, Kroos and Bassas from Liberia have come to Sierra Leone and have shown themselves to be good seafaring people. They practically settle in the territory with their families and have earned for themselves a respectable record as peaceful and law-abiding citizens. As a result they are accepted by both workers and employers on an equal basis

with indigenous workers and no special arrangements are made by Government for their protection or welfare. They elect their own tribal headmen who are accorded Government recognition.

There was no movement of Sierra Leone workers to other territories for the purpose of employment during the year.

WAGES AND HOURS OF WORK

Average Weekly Earnings and Hours Actually Worked in Certain Industries in 1957

COLONY

	Clerks			Artisans			Labourers		
	Hours Actually Worked	Average Weekly Earnings			Hours Actually Worked	Average Weekly Earnings			
		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	
Building and Con- struction . . .	52.38	3	14	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	47.88	2	8	0 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Miscellaneous Manu- factures . . .	49.78	3	3	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	50.59	2	17	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	

PROTECTORATE

	Clerks			Artisans			Labourers					
	Hours Actually Worked	Average Weekly Earnings			Hours Actually Worked	Average Weekly Earnings			Hours Actually Worked	Average Weekly Earnings		
		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Agricultural Research	44.11	3	16	10½	40.93	2	3	5¼	40.11	1	2	8½
Building and Con- struction . . .	45.85	3	14	11½	38.79	2	11	8½	44.24	1	12	2
Forestry . . .	38.27	3	13	4	30.90	1	16	8¾	40.24	1	14	11¾
Mining . . .	56.51	3	3	7½	43.35	2	14	0½	48.74	1	19	4½

Rates of Wages and Normal Hours Worked in Certain Other Industries

	Hours of Work per Week	Rates of Wages (per day)	
		* Area "A"	Other Areas
Waterfront and Stevedoring . . .	48	5s. 9d. to 10s. 8d.	5s. 5d. to 9s. 10d.
Coastwise Deck Labour . . .	60	6s. 6d. to 11s. 3d.	—
Railway Workers			
Unskilled . . .	45 to 48	5s. 6d. to 6s. 3d.	5s. 0d. to 6s. 0d.
Semi-skilled . . .	45 to 48	6s. 4d. to 7s. 11d.	5s. 10d. to 7s. 8d.
Skilled . . .	45 to 48	8s. 2d. to 11s. 5d.	7s. 8d. to 10s. 11d.
Road Transport			
Drivers . . .	48	7s. 11d. to 10s. 11d.	7s. 5d. to 10s. 5d.
Mechanics . . .	45	8s. 11d. to 11s. 5d.	7s. 5d. to 10s. 11d.
Other . . .	45 to 48	5s. 7d. to 10s. 5d.	5s. 1d. to 9s. 8d.

* Area A comprises—

- (a) The Colony Peninsula, i.e. the Freetown Police and Headquarters Judicial District.
- (b) The Sherbro Judicial District.
- (c) The Government Leased Airport Area at Lungi in the Port Loko District.
- (d) The township areas of Bo, Makeni, Magburaka.
- (e) The whole of the South-Eastern Province.

Paid Holidays and Rest Days in the Principal Industries

<i>Industry</i>	<i>Rest Days</i>	<i>Holidays with pay per year</i>
Mining . . .	Sundays and three Public Holidays.	15
Waterfront . . .	Sundays and recognised Public Holidays.	—
Maritime . . .	—	—
Printing . . .	Sundays and recognised Public Holidays.	14
Railway . . .	Sundays and recognised Public Holidays.	9—14
Building and Construction	Sundays and recognised Public Holidays.	9—14
Road Transport . . .	Sundays and recognised Public Holidays.	9—14
Commercial and Clerical Workers . . .	Sundays and recognised Public Holidays.	14—15

A substantial number of workers received appreciable increases in pay during the year, based primarily on the cost of living, which rose sharply during the second and third quarters. In April a three-man Commission of Inquiry, subsequently named after its Chairman, the Gorsuch Commission, was appointed by the Government to investigate the staff and salary structure and the conditions of service of civil servants. The Chairman, Mr. L. H. Gorsuch, was a retired member of the then Colonial Service, who had recently carried out two similar inquiries in Nigeria and the Gambia. He was assisted in his task by two Sierra Leoneans, both pensioners of the Sierra Leone Government. The Commission conducted its inquiry in June and July and submitted its report from London in September. After making some improvements on certain lower-paid scales, the Government issued a statement in October accepting the Commissioner's recommendations. The revised salaries took effect from the 1st April and arrears were paid early in December.

Apart from civil servants, other groups of workers who were granted pay increases were teachers, mining workers and printing trade workers. Revised salaries for teachers were approved by the Government in June, with retrospective effect from the 1st January;

mining workers received in all a wage increase of one shilling per day during the year; a first award of 6d. per day with effect from the 1st of January (as a result of negotiations conducted in 1956) and a second award of 6d. with effect from the 23rd of December.

No variation in the salaries of workers in the printing trade had taken place since the beginning of 1954, when statutory salaries were fixed for the first time in the industry. New salaries came into force with effect from the 5th of April. Apprentices now receive from £5 5. 0d. to £8 10. 0d. a month compared with from £4. 0. 0d. to £5. 0. 0d. previously; composing staff £10. 0. 0d. to £13. 10. 0d. a month compared with from £6. 10. 0d. to £12. 10. 0d.; proof readers £15. 0. 0d. a month compared with £12. 10. 0d.; and assistants or labourers £7. 3. 0d. a month compared with £3. 10. 0d. previously. As regards workers, including daily-paid staff, employed by commercial firms, a few firms are known to have granted cost of living allowances following the acceptance of the Gorsuch Commission's recommendations by Government.

With the exception of commercial and clerical workers, the groups of workpeople shown in the above table relating to paid holidays are covered by wage-fixing machinery, which in addition fixes conditions of employment such as overtime pay, holidays with pay, double-time rate for work on rest days and public holidays and, in some cases, sick leave with pay. Apart from these statutory requirements, it is customary for the larger industrial and commercial employers to provide voluntarily social and welfare facilities for their employees. For example, the two companies engaged in mining diamonds and iron ore run fully-equipped modern hospitals, with highly qualified specialist and medical staff, which treat employees and their families free of any charge; free cinema shows take place weekly and there is in each case a club-house or community hall which is used for dancing, boxing or social meetings and also for indoor games including billiards and table tennis. The United Africa Company provide all their staff with free medical attention including free hospitalisation up to two months (except in the case of tuberculosis, when hospitalisation for three months is provided).

It is also customary for the mining companies and the commercial firms to provide facilities for football, cricket, tennis or net-ball and to arrange annual athletics meetings. The mining companies provide free, or at a normal rent, suitable housing accommodation including kitchens, bathrooms, and lavatories, and "barries" (open sided buildings) for meetings; they also have adequately stocked canteens which sell essential foodstuffs and other commodities at subsidised or cost price.

COST OF LIVING

Two indices of retail prices are published quarterly for the information of the general public. The first of these is the Freetown Retail

Prices Index which relates to the labourer or the lower-paid worker. It was introduced in the second quarter of 1955 and has that quarter as its base. The following table gives information regarding the "all items" index figures for 1957, together with index figures for the various groups in the index (comparable figures for 1956 are also given).

Freetown Index of Retail Prices

Base date: Second quarter of 1955=100.

<i>Period</i>	<i>All Items</i>	<i>Group 1 Food</i>	<i>Group 2 Fuel & Light</i>	<i>Group 3 Drink & Tobacco</i>	<i>Group 4 Clothing</i>	<i>Group 5 Rent & Rates</i>	<i>Group 6 Other Items</i>
<i>1957</i>							
1st Quarter	105.6	103.8	112.0	122.7	96.3	110.9	104.8
2nd Quarter	119.7	122.0	134.9	126.6	96.3	112.1	109.1
3rd Quarter	119.3	123.0	116.4	128.5	96.1	113.7	109.5
4th Quarter	107.3	104.5	112.3	135.0	95.8	114.5	108.1
<i>1956</i>							
1st Quarter	97.3	93.7	100.0	117.1	97.0	104.1	103.4
2nd Quarter	107.8	108.9	102.6	125.7	97.5	105.9	102.0
3rd Quarter	109.5	110.9	104.5	130.4	97.5	106.2	101.9
4th Quarter	99.2	95.9	97.6	128.3	97.3	106.8	102.0

The second index published is the Mining Industry Index of Retail Prices. Its base date is the third quarter of 1956 in which it was introduced. The areas to which it relates are those in which the three mining companies which mine iron ore, chrome and diamonds, are situated, *viz.* the Sierra Leone Development Company, the Sierra Leone Chrome Mines Company and the Sierra Leone Selection Trust. Like the Freetown index, the mining industry index is computed monthly, although it is published quarterly. Particulars of this index, similar to those given in respect of the Freetown index, are as follows:

Mining Industry Index of Retail Prices

Base date: Third quarter of 1956=100.

<i>Period</i>	<i>All Items</i>	<i>Group 1 Food</i>	<i>Group 2 Fuel & Light</i>	<i>Group 3 Drink & Tobacco</i>	<i>Group 4 Clothing</i>	<i>Group 5 Rent & Rates</i>	<i>Group 6 Other Items</i>
<i>1957</i>							
1st Quarter	106.3	108.6	106.8	93.6	100.9	102.5	102.8
2nd Quarter	106.5	110.5	93.5	92.3	101.4	103.2	103.1
3rd Quarter	107.9	111.6	97.1	97.4	100.9	104.6	103.7
4th Quarter	100.8	101.6	82.4	105.5	99.7	106.3	105.2
<i>1956</i>							
1st Quarter	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2nd Quarter	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3rd Quarter	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
4th Quarter	95.4	94.8	84.5	96.5	100.6	100.7	98.8

Apart from the above indices, a third retail prices index is computed by the Government every half-year and circulated for information to the appropriate Civil Service Staff Associations. It is not published. This index is known as the Burgess Index of Retail Prices and relates mainly to the newly appointed and unmarried overseas officer in the service of the Government.

Retail prices of principal foodstuffs in June and December were as follows:

Retail Prices of Principal Food-Stuffs

(a) Freetown Area.

Item	Unit	Prices	
		June, 1957	December, 1957
		s. d.	s. d.
Clean Rice (local)	100 oz.	5 2.30	5 3.42
Bread	10 "	0 4.72	0 6.49
Foofoo	10 "	0 3.81	0 1.68
Farina	16 "	0 8.23	0 7.08
Dried Fish	16 "	3 4.33	1 8.21
Fresh Fish	16 "	2 0.38	2 10.05
Sweet Potatoes	10 "	0 2.39	0 4.43
Cassava	10 "	0 1.68	0 0.72
Onions	10 "	0 3.43	0 3.38
Potato Leaves	10 "	0 3.00	0 2.27
Egusi	10 "	4 2.91	2 9.10
Peppers	10 "	3 4.00	1 10.86
Salt	10 "	0 2.12	0 2.35
Bananas	16 "	0 3.67	0 3.44
Groundnuts	10 "	1 0.00	0 9.23
Sugar	10 "	0 7.35	0 7.02
Coffee	10 "	2 6.00	1 5.78
Beef Steak	1 lb.	3 10.00	3 10.00
Groundnut Oil	1 quart	3 0.00	3 0.00
Palm Oil	1 pint	1 0.00	1 0.00
Tomato Puree	small tin	0 5.00	0 4.00
Evaporated Milk	6 oz. tin	0 7.67	0 8.00

(b) Three Mining Areas in the Protectorate Named Above
(Average).

Item	Unit	Prices	
		June, 1957	December, 1957
		s. d.	s. d.
Clean Rice (local) . . .	100 oz.	5 8.57	5 1.12
Bread	10 "	0 7.92	0 7.32
Foofoo	10 "	0 2.73	0 2.15
Farina	10 "	0 6.83	0 5.57
Dried Fish	10 "	2 3.71	1 10.30
Sweet Potatoes	10 "	0 2.12	0 2.95
Cassava	10 "	0 1.04	0 0.91
Onions	10 "	1 1.30	1 0.65
Potato Leaves	10 "	0 1.86	0 1.75
Egusi (shelled)	10 "	1 5.56	4 11.64
Peppers	10 "	4 5.87	3 0.00
Salt	10 "	0 3.94	0 4.61
Bananas	10 "	0 1.76	0 1.13
Groundnuts (roasted) . .	10 "	1 5.66	1 0.72
Sugar (cube)	1 lb.	1 2.00	1 2.00
Coffee	10 oz.	7 10.29	5 11.62
Beef Steak	1 lb.	3 4.67	3 4.00
Groundnut Oil	1 quart	3 4.56	3 5.56
Palm Oil	1 quart	1 9.67	1 10.56
Tomato Puree	small tin	0 5.78	0 5.45
Evaporated Milk	6 oz. tin	0 8.56	0 8.56

LABOUR DEPARTMENT

The Headquarters of the Labour Department and the Freetown Employment Exchange are housed in adjacent buildings situated in the central part of Freetown, and the Maritime and Harbour Pools in a building at the Queen Elizabeth II Quay, Cline Town.

The main duties of the Department are as follows:

- (i) to advise the Government on labour matters generally;
- (ii) to maintain good industrial relations in the territory and improve them by the development and extension of collective bargaining and joint consultation between employers and workers or their representative organisations;
- (iii) to promote efficiency in management and labour;
- (iv) to reduce the effects of unemployment by the distribution of labour, where possible, to other areas and districts;
- (v) to encourage the sound growth of trade unions and to enable them to shoulder greater responsibility in labour matters;
- (vi) to enforce labour legislation by wages and other inspections;
- (vii) to arrange trade tests and maintain a register of individual trade test records;

- (viii) to register unemployed workers and place them in suitable employment;
- (ix) to give vocational guidance with special emphasis on youth employment and apprenticeship;
- (x) to carry out registration of workers by finger-printing for purposes of identification; and
- (xi) to compile various labour statistics including retail prices indices.

Inspections

During the year 112 wages inspections under the Wages Boards Ordinance (Cap. 258) were completed compared with 302 in 1956. The wages of 5,155 workers were examined; 157 workers were found to be underpaid and £857. 0. 5d. was recovered as arrears of wages. Similar particulars in respect of 1956 were 3,627 workers' wages examined, 123 workers underpaid and £634. 4. 2d. recovered as arrears of wages. A large number of cases was dealt with by inspectors under the Employers and Employed Ordinance (Cap. 70) and the Registration of Employees Ordinance (Ordinance No. 8 of 1947) and a number of investigations was carried out in connection with the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance (Ordinance No. 18 of 1954).

Employment Exchanges

Details of the work of employment exchanges, all of which are managed by the Labour Department, have been given above. In addition to their work as employment placing agencies, the employment exchanges in Freetown, Bonthe and Hastings issued 2,307 fresh and 2,771 renewal registration certificates. These figures include a number issued to a registration team from Freetown. These certificates show the names of the worker's existing and past employers, the rates of wages paid at the commencement and termination of each employment and the duration of each employment. If he is a qualified trade-tested artisan, they also contain his photograph and his trade test certificate.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

One new trade union was registered during the year, the Great Scarcies River Launch Association, with a registered office at Kambia in the Northern Province. This brings the total of registered trade unions to 12.

Particulars of their membership are as follows:

	<i>General Membership</i>	<i>Paid-up Membership</i>
United Mine Workers' Union (Branches at Marampa, Yengema and Hangha)	7,369	1,300
Maritime and Waterfront Workers' Union	5,083	1,764
Transport and General Workers' Union	1,300	550
Artisans and Allied Workers' Union (Branches at Bo and Freetown)	8,594	3,500
Railway Workers' Union	2,474	2,474
Clerical and Mercantile Workers' Union	574	160
Elder Dempster African Staff Union	60	Nil
Amalgamated Teachers' Organisations	711	445
The Sherbro Amalgamated Workers' Union	653	240
Sierra Leone Domestic Servants' Union	214	20
Association of Builders and Building Contractors	22	12
Great Scarcies River Launch Association	Not available	Not available

The Association of Builders and Building Contractors and the Great Scarcies River Launch Association are organisations of employers; the other ten unions are organisations of workpeople.

In December, an application to register as a trade union was received from the Association of Transport Operators, an employers' organisation. As under the Trade Unions Ordinance (Cap. 242) six months' notice of the application has to be given by the Registrar of Trade Unions in the Royal Gazette, consideration cannot be given to the application before the middle of 1958. This was the only application for registration received during the year.

Joint Consultation

The Joint Consultative Committee, an advisory body concerned with labour policy, of which the Chairman is the Commissioner of Labour, held a meeting in the early part of the year. The purpose of the meeting was to consider a revised bill whose purpose was to provide an Arbitration Tribunal for the settlement of disputes in the public utility undertakings and in the public health, hospital and sanitary services. The aim of the bill was to provide a procedure which would prevent lightning strikes in the essential services named above, having regard to the detrimental effects such strikes might have on the life and health of the community at large. Although the Committee approved it unanimously, the Legislative Council (now the House of Representatives), on the basis of a Select Committee's report, resolved to postpone consideration of the bill indefinitely.

All the wage-negotiating bodies except the Maritime and Waterfront Workers' Wages Board (and its offshoots described below) held meetings during the year. The Joint Industrial Council for the Transport Industry continued discussions which had begun in the previous year. The main result of their discussion in 1957 was to agree on sick leave with pay, a benefit not previously provided. The agreement stipulates a qualifying period of 12 months' service and the following entitlements:

- (a) one month sick leave with full pay followed by one month sick leave on half pay in any one calendar year, for workers on wages exceeding in the aggregate £125 per annum;
- (b) 14 days sick leave with full pay in any one calendar year, for workers on wages amounting in the aggregate to £85 per annum or over but under £125 per annum; and
- (c) 14 days sick leave on half pay in any one calendar year, for workers on wages amounting to less than £85 per annum.

It is provided that every claim for sick leave with pay must be supported by a medical certificate from a qualified medical practitioner or a licensed druggist, except that a qualified medical practitioner's certificate is necessary in respect of a claim for more than 14 days sick leave with pay. The Joint Industrial Council for Artisans and General Workers had made a similar agreement in December, 1956.

This provision became statutorily effective on 31st January for artisans and general workers and on 1st March for transport workers. Both Councils met in May and appointed for the first time a representative of the Workers' Side as chairman.

Details have been given above of the wage increases granted by the Mining Workers' Wages Board and the Printing Trade Workers' Wage Board as a result of negotiations during the year. The Printing Trade Workers' Wages Board also approved at a subsequent meeting new occupational tests for the trade. As a result of a recommendation by the Maritime and Waterfront Workers' Wages Board in November, 1956, the Maritime Workers' Wages Board and Joint Industrial Council for the Port Industry came into being towards the end of the year, replacing the Maritime and Waterfront Workers' Wages Board. Steps were being taken to appoint members to both bodies in order to arrange meetings early in the New Year.

The Joint Committee for Teachers met during the year and agreed, as stated above, on revised salaries for teachers which came into effect as from the 1st of January. The Senior and the Junior Whitley Councils in the Civil Service held regular meetings during the year which resulted in an improvement in certain of the conditions of service for civil servants.

Stoppages of work during the year were as follows:

Industry	No. of Workers Involved	Stoppage of Work		No. of man days Lost	Cause	Terms of Settlement
		From	To			
Building and Construction	150	11. 4.57	12. 4.57	300	Dissatisfaction with certain alleged conditions	Resumed on advice of labour officer and branch Secretary of Union
Mining	1,483	10. 6.57	11. 6.57	2,966	Conditions of employment	Resumed pending negotiation by general secretary of Union with management
Fishing	11	11.11.57	16.11.57	55	Dissatisfaction with wages and dismissal of 4 workers	Resumed pending negotiation by general secretary of Union

These stoppages were quickly dealt with by officers of the Labour Department and repercussions in other industries were avoided.

One new works committee was set up during the year for workers employed by the Sierra Leone Produce Marketing Board. Including the twelve committees in the Freetown and provincial branches of the United Africa Company Limited, the total of works committees in the territory is now 26. These committees continued to be effective in reducing tension and producing a climate conducive to the peaceful settlement of disputes. Thanks to them, a number of stoppages of work which might otherwise have occurred were averted.

LABOUR LEGISLATION

No new labour ordinance was enacted during the year.

SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE

Safety

The safety of workers employed in undertakings where dangerous machinery is installed is provided for in the Machinery (Safe Working and Inspection) Ordinance (Cap. 134). In the absence of a Factory Inspectorate in the Labour Department, the Chief Inspector of Mines is entrusted with the responsibility of securing compliance with the provisions of the Ordinance, except that the Chief Mechanical Engineer of the Railway Department is made responsible for boilers in his department. Under the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance (No. 18 of 1954), employers are obliged to report all accidents to and deaths of their workers to the Labour Department as and when they occur. The following table shows the

number of accidents in 1957 and the amount of compensation paid:

Year	No. of Cases			Amount of Compensation Paid		
	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Total	Fatal	Non-Fatal	
1957	18	84	102	£6,373 13 6	£3,601	6 0

The health of workers was, on the whole, good and no cases of occupational diseases were reported to the Labour or Medical Departments during the year.

Compensation is payable under the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance for prescribed occupational diseases.

Health and Welfare

Welfare facilities continued to be provided by the larger mining and commercial undertakings and additional facilities were, in some cases, provided during the year. For example, the Sierra Leone Development Company built a new dispensary at Pepel, to come into operation early in 1958, and gave special attention to preventive medicine in the Tonkolili area which is at an early stage of planning and development. An entomologist with an assistant from Ghana, both expert in the combating of river blindness, started work in September.

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING

Apprenticeship training is well under way, as the result of the adoption a few years ago of a joint apprenticeship scheme by the Joint Industrial Council for Artisans and General Workers and the Joint Industrial Council for the Transport Industry. At the end of the year 102 apprentices were undergoing training under the scheme, which involves a period of full-time training and instruction at the Government Technical Institute. The trades covered are coach building, carpentry, boiler-making, electricity, fitting, masonry, painting and decorating and plating and moulding.

The three mining companies continued to run their individual training schemes and were able to make notable progress during the year. A training centre staffed by a Superintendent, a Supervisor and two teachers was opened by the Sierra Leone Selection Trust on the 11th of April. A re-organisation of training took place during the year at the works of the Sierra Leone Development Company at Marampa, making it possible, by concentrating training, to reduce the period of the apprenticeship from 5 years to 3½ years.

Trade testing of artisans under the aegis of the two joint industrial councils named above continued alongside the new apprenticeship scheme. Of 472 tradesmen tested, 196 obtained the first class certificate, 182 obtained the second class certificate and 94 failed to pass.

Comparable figures for 1956 were 445 men tested, of whom 137 obtained the first class certificate, 155 the second class certificate and 153 failed to pass.

Chapter 3 : Public Finance and Taxation

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

REVENUE and expenditure for 1957 were £10,358,296 and £9,351,285 respectively as compared with £9,572,098 and £9,828,246 in 1956. The estimated figures for 1957 were £9,315,398 and £8,927,537 respectively: revenue was £1,042,898 and expenditure £423,748 more than the estimates.

Main increases in revenue were:

	£
Customs	819,867
Fees and Receipts for departmental service	105,047
Taxes	285,109

Revenue from Colonial Development and Welfare funds was £647,411 as compared with the estimate of £930,693. On the expenditure side, the figures were £713,203 and £1,565,230 respectively.

Customs Revenue was £5,887,967, an increase of £819,867.

The surplus at the close of the year was £1,007,011. The net depreciation on investments amounted to £33,704 and the General Revenue Balance was increased to £3,873,256.

The tables below give the figures of revenue and expenditure for the years 1955, 1956 and 1957.

REVENUE

Ordinary:	1955 £	1956 £	1957 £
Customs	4,262,591	5,356,267	5,887,967
Harbour and Light Dues	81,312	116,915	152,275
Licences and Internal Revenue	43,296	97,569	109,344
Taxes	1,518,684	2,441,285	2,320,109
Fees and Receipts	469,168	593,863	693,027
Reimbursements	88,796	106,609	129,217
Posts and Telegraphs	126,788	172,649	160,503
Royalties	46,340	34,969	38,529
Interests and Loan Repayments	109,856	96,764	158,199
	<u>£6,746,831</u>	<u>£9,016,890</u>	<u>£9,649,170</u>

	1955 £	1956 £	1957 £
<i>Extraordinary:</i>			
Special Receipts	37,351	46,723	39,495
Colonial Development and Welfare Vote	589,810	479,282	647,411
Miscellaneous	20,980	23,304	18,327
Land Sales	3,011	5,382	2,329
Grants from Sierra Leone Produce Marketing Board and Educa- tion Fund	146,749	—	—
Investments	284	517	1,564
Total Extraordinary Revenue:	£798,185	£555,208	£709,126
Total Revenue:	£7,545,016	£9,572,098	£10,358,296

EXPENDITURE

<i>Ordinary:</i>	1955 £	1956 £	1957 £
Agriculture	168,229	212,449	243,020
Education	731,553	992,142	1,238,731
Forestry	51,999	52,396	60,079
Forest Industries (a)	121,867	141,879	136,560
Medical and Health	488,677	564,162	725,394
Other Departments	2,111,033	2,327,233	3,066,559
Miscellaneous Services (b)	372,018	605,404	524,974
Pensions and Gratuities	308,547	282,449	319,295
Public Debt Charges (c)	261,827	193,798	242,168
Public Works Annually Recurrent	414,513	538,550	617,494
Railway Recurrent	228,487	262,560	359,982
Military	124,867	134,285	132,823
Total Ordinary Expenditure:	£5,383,617	£6,307,307	£7,667,079
<i>Extraordinary:</i>	1955 £	1956 £	1957 £
Compensation	—	1,570,000	—
Electricity	29,925	57,112	60,838
Posts and Telegraphs	10,213	35,999	98,017
Public Works	351,326	457,796	469,646
Road Transport	42,466	58,194	112,135
Development Schemes (d)	1,289,781	—	—
Miscellaneous	744	1,338	96
Loans to Local Bodies, etc.	31,292	11,720	43,123
Railway Non-Recurrent	257,192	150,871	127,100
Development	—	1,177,909	773,251
Total Extraordinary Expenditure:	£2,012,939	£3,520,939	£1,684,206
Total Expenditure:	£7,396,556	£9,828,246	£9,351,285

(a) Previously included under Development Schemes.

(b) Includes grants to local administrations, and charges not classified departmentally.

(c) Excludes the portion of interest payable by the Railway.

(d) Includes expenditure recoverable under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act.

PUBLIC DEBT

The Public Debt amounted to £5,660,582 on 31st December, 1957 and the Sinking Funds for its amortisation had accumulated to £599,905 on the same date. Interest and redemption charges amounted to £315,619.

The sums of £9,900, £26,850 and £250,000 respectively were subscribed locally to the loans of £2,030,000, £1,680,000 and £1,250,000 which were raised in 1950, 1953 and 1957.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

At 31st December, 1957, Liabilities totalled £3,506,700 and Assets amounted £7,379,956, thus showing an excess of Assets over Liabilities of £3,873,256.

The cash, investments and reserves held by Government for its own account amounted to £2,319,571, made up as follows:

	£
Cash (available to meet expenditure)	919,268
Reserve Fund	81,395
Surplus Funds invested	1,318,908
	<hr/>
	£2,319,571

MAIN HEADS OF TAXATION

Taxation Yields in 1957.

	£	£
Customs Duties: (a) Export	612,504	
(b) Import	5,275,463	
	<hr/>	5,887,967
Income Tax and Concession Duty:		
(a) Companies	2,060,874	
(b) Personal	111,488	
	<hr/>	2,172,362
Poll Tax (Non-Native)		9,259
Royalties (Gold, Iron Ore)		658
Stamp Duty		8,738
Alluvial Diamond Mining.		138,488

There are no excise duties in Sierra Leone. Stamp duty is collected mainly on cheques, bills of lading and probates of wills, conveyances, etc.

Customs Duties

Customs duty is payable on most imported goods and on ten domestic exports. Import duties are collected either on an *ad valorem* or specific basis and a preference, which in most cases varies from $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 10 per cent, is granted on goods from the scheduled territories. The items which provide the most revenue are tobacco (manufactured and unmanufactured), drink, textiles, petroleum products and food.

Export duties on a specific basis are collected on coffee, ginger, kola nuts, palm kernels and piassava and on an *ad valorem* basis on benniseed, cocoa, alluvial diamonds, groundnuts and palm oil. The product which paid the largest export duty in 1957 was diamonds which yielded £251,495. Palm kernels came next with £211,835. The figures for these exports in 1956 were £80, 923 and £329,232 respectively.

Income and Poll Tax

Income tax was chargeable in 1957-58 at graduated rates (beginning at 6d. in the pound) on individuals and at a flat rate (9s. in the pound) on companies. Individuals were granted personal allowances and other deductions before the graduated rates began to be applied. An unmarried man was granted £300, a married man £500. Children's allowances were granted at rates between £50 and £100 per child (up to a maximum of £400) according to where the child was maintained and whether costs of education were incurred. Dependent relatives allowance was also granted. Allowance was granted for life assurance and similar provision, subject to a generous maximum. In addition, contributions to approved pension and provident funds and expenditure incurred on passages were allowed, subject to conditions, as deductions in arriving at income.

Arrangements have been concluded with the United Kingdom and certain other Commonwealth and foreign countries to avoid double taxation.

Broadly, they provide that tax payable on income from sources within one territory shall be allowed as a credit against tax chargeable on the same income in the other territory. Pensions and certain other forms of income are taxable in only one territory and are exempt in the other.

Poll Tax at £4 a year, or £2 a half-year, was payable, subject to certain exemptions, by non-natives who resided in Sierra Leone for more than three months. Minors and married women living with their husbands were among the persons exempted. Poll Tax was allowed as a set-off against income tax that might have been payable.

Local Tax

The present rate of Local Tax, which is levied in the Protectorate is 25s. a year. The accompanying table illustrates the incidence of income tax on individuals.

Incidence of Income Tax on Individuals

<i>On Incomes of</i>	£300	£400	£500	£600	£700	£800	£900	£1,000	£1,500	£2,000	£2,500	£3,000
Single Man . . .	Nil	£ 2 10 0	£ 0 5 0	£ 0 7 10	£ 0 10 0	£ 0 15 0	£ 0 20 0	£ 0 25 0	£ 0 80 0	£ 0 230 0	£ 0 480 0	£ 0 730 0
Married Man . . .	”	Nil	Nil	2 10 0	5 0 0	7 10 0	10 0 0	15 0 0	55 0 0	155 0 0	380 0 0	630 0 0
” with 1 child	”	”	”	1 5 0	3 15 0	6 5 0	8 15 0	12 10 0	48 15 0	142 10 0	355 0 0	605 0 0
” 2 children	”	”	”	Nil	2 10 0	5 0 0	7 10 0	10 0 0	42 10 0	130 0 0	330 0 0	580 0 0
” 3	”	”	”	”	1 5 0	3 15 0	6 5 0	8 15 0	36 5 0	117 10 0	305 0 0	555 0 0
” 4	”	”	”	”	Nil	2 10 0	5 0 0	7 10 0	30 0 0	105 0 0	280 0 0	530 0 0

* Reliefs applied are in respect of children in Sierra Leone.

FINANCES OF PRINCIPAL LOCAL AUTHORITIES

In the Colony the principal local authorities are the Freetown City Council and the Rural Area Council.

In the Provinces there are 12 District Councils and 144 Native Administrations.

Details of revenue and expenditure for 1956 and 1957 are as follows:

Freetown City Council

	<i>Revenue Actual</i>		<i>Expenditure Actual</i>	
	1955-56	1956-57	1955-56	1956-57
	£	£	£	£
Finance and General Purposes Committee	11,453	9,671	16,363	13,635
Protection Committee	8,613	9,544	25,446	28,278
Health, Housing and Building Scheme Committee	—	—	—	—
Recreational Facilities Committee	3,517	3,497	14,660	14,666
Education and Publicity Committee	6,980	9,533	14,173	18,685
Assessment Committee	40	46	4,566	3,841
Municipal Trading Committee Market (less Funeral Transport)	15,562	14,071	16,787	18,186
City Rate	52,649	59,607	—	—
Surplus Revenue	—	—	6,819	8,678
	£98,814	£105,969	£98,814	£105,969

District Councils

	<i>Revenue Actual</i>		<i>Expenditure Actual</i>	
	1956	1957	1956	1957
	£	£	£	£
Bo	55,958	45,009	54,514	61,817
Bombali	29,147	24,747	39,125	27,576
Bonthe	16,940	24,612	22,859	18,660
Kailahun	42,174	32,404	35,817	33,658
Kambia	22,702	15,631	29,134	21,983
Kenema	38,237	39,723	35,102	36,402
Koinadugu	26,866	27,234	29,040	27,258
Kono	48,861	44,274	49,745	43,741
Moyamba	26,973	36,384	30,560	34,810
Port Loko	24,089	31,398	35,000	35,685
Pujehun	21,324	23,427	28,161	26,689
Tonkolili	21,963	27,839*	24,685	23,320*
TOTALS	£375,234	£372,682	£413,742	£391,599

* Estimated

Sherbro Urban District Council

<i>Revenue Actual</i>		<i>Expenditure Actual</i>	
1956	1957	1956	1957
£	£	£	£
12,300	12,272	12,366	12,254

Bo Town Council

<i>Revenue Actual</i>		<i>Expenditure Actual</i>	
1956	1957	1956	1957
£	£	£	£
13,107	17,019	11,927	16,203

Rural Area Council

<i>Revenue Actual</i>		<i>Expenditure Actual</i>	
1956	1957	1956	1957
£	£	£	£
11,354	14,064	13,948	13,407

Chapter 4 : Currency and Banking

CURRENCY

THE currency in circulation in the Territory consists of notes of the face value of £5, £1 and 10s., nickel-bronze coins of $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d. and 2d. and nickel brass of 6d., 1s. and 2s.

These are provided by the West African Currency Board which has its offices in London and is represented locally by a Currency Officer. Its Agents are the Bank of West Africa Limited.

At 31st December, 1957, West African Currency Board notes in circulation were estimated at £8,711,989 and coins at £4,736,748.

BANKING

There are two banks operating in the Territory viz:

The Bank of West Africa Limited, and the Barclays Bank D.C.O. The former has a branch at Bo in the Protectorate and also Agencies at Segbwema and Pendembu and Bonthe, and the latter branches at Kenema and Makeni, Kroo Town Road and Cline Town.

Savings Bank facilities are offered by both these banks as also by the Post Office Savings Bank. In the last, the rate of interest payable is $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent per annum and at 31st December, 1957, the amount standing to the credit of 65,816 depositors was £1,605,447. 19s. 9d.

Chapter 5 : Commerce

DURING 1957 there were no significant changes in the regulation affecting imports. Most classes of goods can be imported without restriction from non-dollar countries (with the exception of the Communist bloc and Japan).

Value of Imports into and Exports from Sierra Leone 1955 to 1957

		1955	1956	1957
		£	£	£
Total Imports	(a)	17,114,967	23,093,100	28,238,511
Total Exports	(b)	10,222,067	13,184,605	18,345,711
Re-Exports	(a)	292,443	1,052,462	3,378,581

(a) Excluding bullion and specie.

(b) Subject to further adjustment in respect of shipment of iron ore during last quarter of 1957. Including domestic exports of gold.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

The following table gives the direction of trade by value for imports and exports.

Origin of Imports by Value

<i>COUNTRIES</i>	<i>1955</i>	<i>1956</i>	<i>1957</i>
	£	£	£
British Commonwealth			
United Kingdom	10,289,717	12,520,213	13,156,700
Australia	27,928	37,695	43,200
Canada	259,246	306,935	248,791
Cyprus	155,350	211,020	214,201
Ghana (Gold Coast)	65,241	118,626	82,756
Gambia	5,038	12,982	10,699
Hong Kong	696,923	627,338	679,112
India	771,371	937,625	599,164
New Zealand	26,378	33,527	33,596
Nigeria	242,072	271,217	307,362
Nyasaland	245,238	322,092	276,665
Trinidad	53,374	425,213	79,966
Union of South Africa	150,397	185,555	276,751
Other parts of the British Commonwealth	502,387	243,539	152,407
Total British Commonwealth	13,490,660	16,253,577	16,161,370
Irish Republic	180,508	236,565	384,432
Foreign Countries			
Belgium	139,236	150,106	276,939
Czechoslovakia	78,329	134,381	175,350
Denmark	62,372	172,710	153,392
France	96,245	183,980	226,924
German Fed. Rep.	410,973	660,518	804,560
Germany, Eastern	12,159	20,256	55,505
Italy	271,780	2,044,092	1,758,311
Japan	361,819	1,189,532	2,163,283
Madeira	2,996	7,098	3,437
Netherlands	501,112	717,598	848,282
Netherlands West Indies	585,860	395,991	2,850,324
Portugal	154,710	105,403	60,074
Spain	9,094	16,835	18,327
Sweden	90,676	129,366	135,479
Switzerland	36,036	47,093	76,890
United States of America	285,642	380,975	820,147
Other foreign Countries	344,760	247,024	1,265,484
Total foreign Countries	3,443,799	6,602,958	11,692,708
GRAND TOTAL	17,114,967	23,093,100	28,238,510

Destination of Exports by Value

<i>COUNTRIES</i>	<i>1955</i>	<i>1956</i>	<i>1957</i>
<i>British Commonwealth</i>	£	£	£
United Kingdom	7,135,562	8,457,051	11,229,187
Australia	7,476	1,161	—
Canada	—	8,246	7,067
Cyprus	11	432	1,939
Gambia	237,667	124,760	126,219
Ghana (Gold Coast)	18,759	15,683	17,192
Hong Kong	1,600	3	250
India	80	136	430
Nigeria	38,901	25,679	67,084
Union of South Africa	26,421	41,794	18,163
Other parts of the British Commonwealth	1,101	4,002	3,038
Total British Commonwealth	7,467,578	8,678,947	11,470,569
Irish Republic	1	—	1,355
<i>Foreign Countries</i>			
Belgium	21,054	111,462	50,146
Denmark	67,260	124,249	35,136
France	7,977	7,654	4,863
German Fed. Rep.	1,202,082	1,655,344	1,283,516
Italy	24,908	92,641	64,972
Liberia	36,865	10,016	10,540
Netherlands	643,282	982,469	1,261,453
Netherlands West Indies	18,091	—	—
Sweden	1,229	936	628
Switzerland	494	479	582
United States of America	637,942	660,864	1,049,205
Other foreign Countries	58,056	21,982	84,382
Total foreign Countries	2,719,240	3,668,096	3,845,423
Ships' Stores	35,248	837,562	3,028,366
GRAND TOTAL	10,222,067	13,184,605	18,345,713

The main imports and exports were as follows:

Quantities and Values of Principal Domestic Exports, 1955 to 1957

Commerce

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COMMODITIES	Unit	1957		1956		1955	
		Quantity	Value £	Quantity	Value £	Quantity	Value £
<i>Food</i>							
Bananas	cwt.	343	407	323	333	5,834	7,624
Cocoa	cwt.	40,210	385,946	57,620	581,305	43,531	740,829
Coconuts	cwt.	382	392	488	1,013	504	680
Coffee (raw)	cwt.	75,168	895,672	60,180	660,875	41,845	473,983
Ginger	cwt.	14,002	99,880	22,355	241,269	34,654	357,320
Kola Nuts	cwt.	14,727	102,942	16,565	106,840	22,560	212,095
Pepper and Pimento	cwt.	28	217	35	324	272	2,653
<i>Crude Materials mainly Inedible, excepting Fuels</i>							
Benniseed	ton	*	20	12	761	111	8,848
Chrome Ore	ton	16,378	170,198	18,774	194,630	17,750	192,331
Iron Ore	ton	1,444,542	4,380,343	1,328,019	4,003,016	1,331,573	3,709,595
Palm Kernels	ton	52,967	2,253,537	57,645	2,507,889	57,640	2,509,537
Piassava	cwt.	86,986	247,936	104,878	309,395	98,519	254,368
<i>Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats</i>							
Beeswax	lb.	5,705	1,236	25,630	6,074	42,076	8,889
<i>Manufactured Articles classified chiefly by Materials</i>							
Diamonds	carat	863,202	6,425,197	647,797	3,457,385	401,423	1,400,478
<i>Miscellaneous Transactions and commodities</i>							
Monkeys and Chimpanzees	no.	1,626	11,803	831	11,847	1,402	11,674

* Under 1 ton

Quantities and Values of Principal Imports, 1955 to 1957

COMMODITIES	Unit	1957		1956		1955	
		Quantity	Value £	Quantity	Value £	Quantity	Value £
Beer (including ale, stout and porter) . .	gall.	2,224,308	1,116,263	1,826,954	850,563	1,701,342	759,347
Cabin Bread (Cabin Biscuits) . .	cwt.	7,114	40,449	12,607	62,008	19,040	94,439
Cement . .	ton	43,056	392,634	35,345	295,347	26,303	224,061
Clothing and Footwear . .	—	—	1,182,137	—	1,126,587	—	900,161
Coal, Coke and Briquettes . .	ton	25,993	160,013	23,690	134,921	30,286	175,932
Corrugated Sheets and Readings, galvanised .	ton	8,370	753,169	5,731	491,871	5,083	438,379
Cotton Fabrics of standard type (excluding narrow and special fabrics) . .	sq. yd.	23,190,381	2,044,629	25,974,608	2,267,139	21,915,703	1,958,010
	lb.	6,032,946		6,124,598		5,517,083	
	lb.	197,672	51,087	245,022	63,325	372,413	98,668
Cotton fent . .							
Fabrics of synthetic fibres, including headties in the piece, but excluding fents of knitted fabrics . .	sq. yd.	18,207,461	1,427,750	9,470,527	940,756	4,651,204	543,454
	lb.	5,026,935		2,918,307		1,514,110	
Electric Machinery, apparatus and appliances	—	—	566,299	—	441,307	—	266,659
Fish and fish preparations . .	cwt.	71,500	484,802	56,052	400,911	43,078	326,368
Household utensils, hollow ware . .	cwt.	42,518	402,902	27,576	276,092	34,475	346,745
Joists, girders, angles, shapes, sections, bars, etc. . .	ton	5,802	180,828	1,668	86,316	1,410	75,856
Jute, bags and sacks, new . .	no.	975,302	93,444	1,156,141	112,484	940,178	98,009
	cwt.	18,630		23,688		26,891	
Matches . .	gross boxes	137,807	77,112	135,272	74,799	124,206	69,704
Meal and flour of wheat and spelt . .	cwt.	191,348	481,345	162,433	422,493	157,631	403,098
Meat and meat preparations . .	cwt.	22,515	208,883	16,052	141,155	10,688	98,370
Medicinal and Pharmaceutical products . .	—	—	327,564	—	257,804	—	224,952
Milk and Cream, fresh, evaporated, condensed or dried . .	cwt.	23,902	196,749	28,540	224,995	21,061	166,769

Quantities and Values of Principal Imports, 1955 to 1957

COMMODITIES	Unit	1957		1956		1955	
		Quantity	Value £	Quantity	Value £	Quantity	Value £
Petroleum products:							
Lamp Oil	ton	13,203	223,697	9,832	147,811	—	156,643
	gall.	3,718,427		2,684,134		2,326,425	283,886
Motor Spirits	ton	17,889	290,130	14,074	230,138	—	
	gall.	5,258,921		4,362,930		3,062,977	
Rice	cwt.	621,033	1,429,270	735,993	1,650,442	421,314	968,018
Passenger Cars	no.	828	481,625	721	413,068	593	335,173
	ton	876		794		659	
Chassis with engines mounted	no.	412	367,938	641	561,975	288	266,289
	ton	1,004		1,717		657	
Salt	cwt.	119,252	104,582	128,701	103,738	135,908	105,292
Soap (toilet and common)	cwt.	58,278	254,602	35,544	159,046	28,113	105,604
Sugar (refined)	cwt.	165,630	605,167	144,017	421,993	134,102	380,370
Tobacco, Manufactured: Cigarettes	lb.	689,744	436,689	571,355	364,372	468,415	304,814
	thou.	299,381		261,160		206,386	
Tobacco, Unmanufactured	cwt.	14,005	268,303	17,676	335,988	14,419	253,040
Wine (still)	gall.	722,454	284,065	708,647	280,957	582,731	234,443

Chapter 6 : Production

LAND UTILISATION AND TENURE

THE total area of Sierra Leone is 27,925 square miles of which the land area is 27,800 square miles. This may be classified as follows:

	<i>Sq. Miles</i>
Arable land	} 14,138
Land for growing tree crops	
Permanent meadow and pasture	8,500
Wood or forest land	1,162
Swamp land	2,500
All other land	1,500

The country may roughly be divided into the following vegetational zones:

- (a) the coastal belt, characterised by tidal mangrove swamps and riverain grasslands. In the Scarcies area the mangrove swamps, especially, and in the Bonthe area, the riverain grasslands, have been extensively developed for rice farming;
- (b) the high forest area in the south-east where cocoa and coffee cultivation is of major importance;
- (c) the central and south-west areas of secondary bush, often with numerous wild oil palms, interspersed with many small inland swamps;
- (d) the derived Guinea savannah area of the north—orchard savannah and tall grass with some inland swamps and flood plains where most of the cattle population is found.

The traditional farming system on the undulating uplands is one of shifting cultivation with bush, mainly secondary, being cleared for farming once in five to ten years. This is a wasteful method and with a steady increase in the population is leading to overfarming in some areas. No satisfactory rotation of crops in the high rainfall areas of West Africa has yet been found, despite continuous experimentation for over a quarter of a century. The aim of the Department of Agriculture, is, therefore, correct land use, and thus to encourage the annual farming of inland, riverain and mangrove swamps as alternatives to the uplands, and encourage the planting of permanent tree crops such as oil palms, cocoa and coffee on the uplands. The possibilities of utilising upland pastures in conjunction with cattle for soil rejuvenation are being investigated as a long-term programme.

As will be seen from the statistics of principal crops, the staple food is rice. The majority of this production still comes from the uplands, but the trend is towards increased production from swamps

and less from the uplands. This is being encouraged by empoldering, by increasing tidal free-flow channels where riverain swamps suffer from impeded drainage, by mechanised cultivation of the swamp lands, by the gradual clearance and cultivation of areas of mangrove and by the organised cultivation of the numerous inland swamps. In this way it should be possible, eventually, to make full use of these alternative potential production areas to relieve the pressure on the uplands.

The 1956-57 rice crop was better than that for 1955-56 but total production remained below the average for previous years. The 1957-58 crop should be better than that for 1956-57.

As in previous years all agricultural work was affected by the migration of farmers away from farming to diamond mining, but to a lesser extent than in the last two years. Diversion of the farming population continued, however, to lead to a reduction in the production of food crops and certain export crops. The removal of the large number of foreign West African immigrants has eased the food supply problem, which had been adversely affected by a rise in prices and the need to import of a considerable quantity of rice to meet the increased demand. The production of palm kernels continued to decline, although to a much lesser degree than in 1956, and the export of palm oil and groundnuts virtually ceased, as all supplies were consumed locally. Ginger and benniseed exports also decreased.

Coffee is rapidly developing into an important export crop and considerable areas have been planted throughout the country in recent years. The expansion of cacao in the high forest areas goes ahead steadily, although less cacao than coffee has been planted recently. Piassava retains an important place amongst the exports but the quantity exported is not likely to expand much further due to a rather inelastic demand. The wild oil palm is abundant throughout the southern areas but, with two exceptions, large oil palm plantations do not exist. Large numbers of oil palm seedlings of improved varieties are being distributed to farmers every year. Power nut crackers and pioneer oil mills have been introduced to mechanise processing.

Land and water resources are conserved by declaring forest reserves and protected forests, and by chiefdom bye-laws under sections 8 and 16 of the Tribal Authorities Ordinance. Details of other proposed projects of this nature will be found in the *Report on Soil Conservation and Land Use in Sierra Leone* (Sessional Paper No. 1 of 1951).

The law regulating the ownership of land in the Protectorate is to be found in the Protectorate Land Ordinance, Cap. 186 of the Laws of Sierra Leone. This Ordinance declares that all land in the Protectorate is vested in the tribal authorities and lays down conditions under which non-natives may occupy land. The principal provision is that which restricts the interest which a non-native can hold to a term not exceeding 50 years, renewable for further terms

not exceeding 21 years. In order further to safeguard the rights of the indigenous people, the Summary Ejectment (Protectorate) Ordinance, Cap. 227 of the Laws of Sierra Leone, provides a simplified form of procedure for the removal of a non-native who unlawfully occupies Protectorate land.

The radical title to land in the whole of the Protectorate is vested in the indigenous inhabitants. From this are derived leaseholds under which the Government, trading firms and others may occupy certain areas of limited extent. Mining companies, also, occupy land for terms of years by virtue of mining leases, the conditions of which are governed by the Minerals Ordinance, Cap 144 of the Laws of Sierra Leone. The areas occupied by Government and by commercial and mining interests are inconsiderable compared with the extent of the Protectorate as a whole.

Details of land tenure, apart from the leasehold tenure described in the previous paragraph, vary among the different tribes.

Local development programmes related to the use and ownership of land and water resources are arranged in discussion with the tribal authorities concerned. At present they principally concern the utilisation of tidal and inland swamp land for the improved cultivation of rice and for the most part are on a small scale.

No provision exists for permanent settlement by non-natives in the Protectorate. Africans may settle on land on such terms as are provided for by native law and custom in the chiefdom in which they wish to settle.

AGRICULTURE

Principal Crops

The area and production of the principal crops grown for local consumption and export in 1957 were as follows:

<i>Crop</i>	<i>Area (acres)</i>	<i>Average Annual Production (tons)</i>
Rice (as paddy) (a) (b)	625,000	251,000
Millet and Sorghum (c)	37,000	24,000
Maize (c)	40,000	8,600
Groundnuts (undecorticated)	20,000	5,100
Chillies	n.a.	n.a.
Bananas and Plaintains	n.a.	n.a.
Cassava	46,000	49,000
Sweet potatoes and yams	9,000	9,400
Coconuts	4,000	n.a.
Coffee (raw)	n.a.	3,758 (exported)
Cocoa	n.a.	2,010 (exported)
Kola nuts	n.a.	736 (exported)
Fibres—Piassava	n.a.	4,349 (exported)
Ginger	n.a.	700 (exported)
Benniseed	n.a.	n.a.
Palm kernels	n.a.	52,967 (exported)
Palm (pericarp) oil	n.a.	n.a.

(a) Conversion factor paddy to clean rice: 60 per cent.

(b) The rice crop year is from 1st March to 28th February.

(c) Mixed cropping.

The yields per acre are very variable. Production is mainly by individual farmers working on their own and particular crops are not confined to any one section of the community.

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT

The headquarters of the Department is at Njala. The country is divided into seven Agricultural Circles, each Circle in the charge of an Agricultural Officer. In most cases a second Agricultural Officer or Agricultural Superintendent is attached to the Circle. The Circle is usually subdivided into units of three chiefdoms, each unit being the responsibility of an Agricultural Instructor under whom there may be Junior Instructors or District Council and Native Administration demonstrators.

Departmental policy can be summarised as follows: "to secure the best use of the land conserving the productivity and fertility of the soil whilst developing food crops and livestock for the people and surplus crops for export."

The main agricultural stations are:

Regional Rice Research Station, Rokupr, on the Great Scarcies river, where research on rice breeding, rice soils and allied subjects is carried out.

Musaia Animal Husbandry Station in the derived Guinea savannah area in Koinadugu District in the north. Work is aimed at selecting and breeding a strain of the local trypanosomiasis-resistant Ndama cattle which will be early maturing with a good carcass weight and of regular breeding habit. Work on pastures, poultry and settling the local nomadic cattle owners is also carried out.

Njala Experimental Farm in the secondary bush area. Work is concerned with annual crops, pigs and poultry.

Newton Experimental Farm in the Colony. Work is mainly concerned with pigs and poultry.

Horticultural Station at Lumley, near Freetown, for experimental work on horticultural crops and the provision of planting materials.

In 1954 certain agricultural departmental schemes were taken over by District Councils. These, with their own economic development plans financed by grants from Government funds, have been carried out by staff assigned or transferred from this Department and junior staff recruited locally under the general direction and advice of departmental officers. Wherever possible, successfully established schemes such as improved oil palm planting, inland swamp clearance, mangrove clearance, ox ploughing, production and provision of planting materials, including cacao and coffee, have been handed over with staff and finance. In many cases, District Councils have accepted responsibility, and schemes, particularly those in connection with nurseries, have worked out well. In others, owing to the shortage of funds and inefficient administration certain schemes have been taken back by the Department. The final aim is that local administrations should run their own simple agricultural affairs and the Department assume an advisory role allowing it to concentrate on experimental work and the establishment of further schemes.

Development Schemes

The main agricultural development schemes are as follows:

Rice. The extensive southern riverain grasslands and the north central flood plains, or boli lands, are estimated to total some 300,000 acres. Preliminary trials were carried out in 1949 and 1950. As they were successful, field schemes were established and in 1952, 2,100 acres were cultivated. This has been expanded and in 1955 over 10,000 acres were cultivated, rising in 1956 to over 12,000 acres. In 1957 the departmental acreage was maintained at 12,000 acres; the Co-operative Department took over some 3,000 acres of land already under cultivation by the Department and the equivalent acreage was opened up in new areas by departmental staff and machines. A series of mechanical substations have been established during the last four years to provide necessary repair facilities.

Work is now done on contract for farmers and some seventy heavy tractors and ancillary equipment, including a small landing craft, are in use.

It has now been arranged that farmers grouped in Co-operative Societies should take over well established sites and cultivate them with their own tractors, allowing the Department to enter new areas and carry out more experimental work. Considerable investigational work and trials were carried out with funds from the United Kingdom in 1954-56 and a soil survey of the northern boli lands started in 1957. These areas are less fertile than the settlement areas and several problems remain to be solved.

Whilst most of the mangrove areas in the Scarcies which can be cultivated have been felled and brought into use, large tracts remain in the south. In this area a loan scheme for clearing was started in 1938-39 and in various modified forms has continued. In 1953, the work was handed over to District Councils, when it was estimated that some 8,500 acres had been cleared. Felling continues but on a more limited scale than previously due to the migration of farmers to mining.

The empoldering of saline swamps is concentrated in the saline mangrove areas of the Scarcies and the Colony. A total of 890 acres is now empoldered, 500 acres of which have been done by excavators as a pilot scheme. Before further expansion takes place, the economics of this method of rice cultivation requires careful study, but subject to its economic practicability, considerable areas could be reclaimed for rice growing by this means. In the Scarcies, the empolders have been taken over by the Kambia District Council. Some 1,000 acres of peat swamps were successfully reclaimed some years ago in the Scarcies area by the construction of drains to allow free fresh water tidal wash. Plans are in hand to reclaim a further 5,000 acres during the next few years. An Irrigation and Drainage Engineer was appointed in 1957 and orders for heavy plant and equipment have been placed.

Ox ploughing is confined to certain cattle areas in the north. Much of the demand for oxen has now been met and the people are becoming more interested in tractors. The area under ox ploughing has fallen off of late, due to deaths amongst the older men and counter attraction offered to the rising generation by diamond mining.

Inland swamp clearance schemes have rapidly expanded, under their own momentum, from pilot schemes established by the Department. District Councils have helped with grants and loans and in the north, particularly, there has been a very marked increase in this type of farming.

Regional Rice Research Station, Rokupr. The research programme in rice breeding and the study of rice soils, with particular reference to mangrove soils, continued and several technical papers were

published. Improved rice varieties continue to be multiplied and distributed and a large collection of more than 440 rice varieties from sources throughout the world has been built up. Work is also being carried out on arboricides for killing mangroves and on crab control. Officers visit Nigeria, Ghana and Gambia as is required to investigate and advise on rice growing problems in these territories.

Oil Palms. The most important work of the Department in regard to tree crops is the country-wide oil palm campaign and some 100,000 seedlings are now being distributed annually. The main oil palm nursery is at Njala where there is a modern germinator and an overhead irrigation system is installed. All other stations have oil palm nurseries and there are many others run by District Councils supervised by departmental staff. The research officer from the West African Institute for Oil Palm Research main station in Nigeria, temporarily posted to Sierra Leone, continues work on the establishment of a sub-station at Njala.

Cocoa and Coffee. Increased planting was encouraged in suitable areas. Owing to the high price of coffee much more of this crop was planted than cocoa. Experiments towards obtaining high quality cacao continued, particularly those directed towards obtaining the best methods of fermentation. With the stimulus of a price differential for the various cacao grades, the farmers made efforts to improve quality, which continued to be very much higher than before 1954. A cacao and coffee experimental station was established in 1957 and already indications have shown that simple phyto-sanitary measures within native plantations can lead to markedly increased yields.

New high yielding strains of cacao were introduced for trial.

Piassava. This is a valuable localized industry and production remained high. Quality was quite good and field officers continued to assist by demonstrations and instructions in the best methods of preparation.

Investigational work continued at the small Piassava Experimental Station in Bonthe District.

Fertilizers. Experiments continued and demonstration plots, which many farmers visited, were laid down throughout the country. Superphosphate is outstanding as the main soil improver, especially for swamp rice. Sales of superphosphate continued and it is likely the demand will increase steadily; fertilizers for food crop production are subsidised. Experiments on trace elements also continued.

Livestock and Poultry. The Animal Husbandry Station at Musaia in the main cattle area, continues as the chief centre for investigating the local Ndama breed, studying management and pasture improvement and for disseminating knowledge and practical assistance to the surrounding cattle owners. Work is at present concentrated

upon selection and breeding for an earlier maturing and larger carcass weight animal which breeds regularly. The herd now numbers over 230. Extension work includes a scheme to settle the nomadic cattle owners, mainly Fulas. By the end of 1957 some 59 areas, each of one square mile, had been settled and help was given in establishing small dams, improving water supplies and pastures, and initiating soil conservation measures.

Other stations with cattle are Newton and Njala where selection and good management are improving the herds. Newton continued as the main pig centre stocked with Large Whites and Wessex Saddlebacks. Considerable numbers are sold annually to local pig keepers as foundation breeding stock. The policy of importing a few good boars annually from the United Kingdom continues. Small local piggeries continued to be reasonably satisfactory, in the Colony area in particular, despite a shortage of feeding stuffs due to a general decrease in surplus food crops, and the sudden availability of cheaper Nigerian pork.

The poultry stocks on all stations were increased, new buildings erected and additional equipment obtained. The policy of importing day-old pedigree chicks by air from the United Kingdom continued. Experiments with the deep litter system have been very successful at Newton and Njala. Demand by the public continued to be heavy and the aim now is to increase production to meet it. In particular large numbers of eight-week-old chicks are sold. Muscovy ducks continued to thrive well, but it has been decided to limit investigational work on Chinese geese.

Horticulture. Work amongst the Colony market gardeners continued. Demonstration hill and valley gardens have been established, showing the value of terracing, irrigation, improved varieties, fertilizers, insecticides and new types of gardening machinery. Lectures, demonstrations and a horticultural show were again organised and publications prepared for distribution amongst local growers. Stocks of budded citrus and other fruit trees have been built up to meet the large local demand.

Research. Apart from fundamental rice research at the Rice Research Station, Rokupr, departmental research continued on soils, soil fertility and fertilizers, and taxonomic studies of Sierra Leone fungi. In addition, work was continued on the control of Black Pod Disease of cacao. A "Vernacular Botanical Dictionary for Sierra Leone," by F. C. Deighton was published in 1957.

ANIMAL HEALTH

There has never been any accurate census of the livestock population in Sierra Leone. The number of cattle, which was greatly reduced during the disastrous rinderpest epizootic of 1949, is gradually increasing, and the total number is now probably in the neighbour-

hood of 175,000. This increase is primarily due to the greater security felt by the Fula cattle owners for their herds as a result of the disease control measures which have been carried out in recent years by the Veterinary Department. Fula settlement schemes have also encouraged these people to forsake their semi-nomadic existence and to settle, with their cattle, in Sierra Leone, thus increasing the national herd. The majority of the cattle are to be found, under Fula ownership, in the Northern Province. Prior to 1949 many thousands of cattle were also kept in the Kono District of the South Eastern Province but memories of the losses suffered from rinderpest during that year, together with an increased interest in illicit diamond mining, have discouraged the people there from attempting to rebuild their herds. There are probably about 5,000 pigs in the country and this number is increasing mainly because of the encouragement and assistance being given to District Councils to build piggeries. Unlike the local Ndama cattle, however, pigs are susceptible to trypanosomiasis, which in certain circumstances can constitute a considerable hazard to successful pig rearing in Sierra Leone. The number of sheep and goats is estimated at 20,000 and 25,000 respectively.

The estimated number of animals slaughtered for human consumption during 1957 was:

Cattle 8,230, Sheep 32, Goats 235, Pigs 345.

Diseases

As in former years, the main concern of the Department was the control of rinderpest, and a total of 29,365 cattle were immunised against this disease with Lapinised Rinderpest Virus during the year. The absence of rinderpest in Sierra Leone for the fourth year running is largely due to the annual immunisation campaigns of recent years. Sierra Leone has a relatively large land frontier across which disease can enter and as it is not possible to control this effectively, the only certain way of excluding rinderpest is to keep the cattle of the country immune.

Outbreaks of contagious bovine pleuropneumonia continued to occur in the frontier districts during the year, mainly in Sulima chiefdom and as extensions of previous outbreaks which occurred in the same area in the later months of 1956. This disease is much more common in French Guinea, and more difficult to control there because of the higher density of the cattle population, and there exists the constant danger of its importation into Sierra Leone. The insidious nature of the disease makes quick notification and diagnosis very difficult and constant vigilance is necessary to prevent any extensive spread from the frontier districts into the main cattle rearing areas.

The permanent infection of the soil in the Kamakwie area with the spores of anthrax bacilli necessitated the declaration of the Sela Limba Chiefdom an infected area during most of the year. All cattle, sheep and goats in the chiefdom were vaccinated against

anthrax and all trade cattle from French Guinea were vaccinated and quarantined for ten days in Kamakwie.

Newcastle disease of poultry is very prevalent in Sierra Leone and the demand for vaccination against this disease is steadily growing, over 91,723 birds being vaccinated in 1957, compared with 55,000 in 1956.

VETERINARY DEPARTMENT

The Department's permanent senior establishment consists of the Director, Senior Veterinary Officer and two Veterinary Officers, and one Laboratory Superintendent. One of the Veterinary Officer's posts is held by a Sierra Leonean, as is the post of Laboratory Superintendent, at present held as Laboratory Superintendent-in-training.

The main function of the department continues to be the control of disease. Provided the department can control the major epizootics for the next few years, there will, undoubtedly, be a big rise in the cattle population and it is essential that this increase should be absorbed into the southern parts of the country to relieve pressure in the Northern Province. Already there are signs in the Koinadugu District of a limited amount of over-stocking and overgrazing and it is even possible to foresee the day when soil erosion will begin unless the surplus cattle can be introduced into many areas in the south where excellent grazing exists. The problem is largely an administrative one and if the Fula Settlement scheme in the Northern Province which gives cattle owners certain rights of land tenure proves successful it may be possible for District Councils and Co-operative Societies to persuade the people in the southern areas to accept the Fula into their lands, or to start keeping cattle themselves. Work is continuing at Musaia Livestock Improvement Farm and eventually it should be possible to supply improved breeding stock. However, this is a long-term policy and the pressing need is to get more cattle into the south as quickly as possible. Because nothing will retard the industry more than the fear of disease, it is the Department's first duty to see that these cattle are healthy.

FORESTRY

The Government's demand for data on which to base a White Paper on Natural Resources has necessitated a review of Forest Policy throughout the Colony and Protectorate. The background to this review is the difficult problem of securing an adequate forest estate in districts where practically all forests have been cleared and farming rights established. The bush fallow method of farming means that, if land is taken for forestry, alternative land is seldom available and the result has been growing opposition by farmers and Tribal Authorities to the practice of forestry. To make matters more difficult, local finance has been disorganised in some districts and funds for silvicultural work have been arbitrarily cut half way through the

season, thus causing waste of nursery stock. This occurred mainly in the Northern Province and resulted in a reduction in the area planted in this province from 471 to 389 acres.

In contrast, rapid progress was made in the regeneration of the Government Forests which are being exploited to supply the Kenema sawmill. The thinning out of unsaleable trees which follows the removal of saleable logs, is being successfully accomplished by a hormone spray. This has cheapened and accelerated treatment designed to stimulate seedlings by removing competition and increasing the amount of light reaching the forest floor.

Newly constituted Protected Forests covered 3.7 square miles. This brings the total area of the forest estate to 1,117.7 square miles; 4.01 per cent of the country. All forest in the Protectorate, a total of 1,051 square miles, is classed as communal forest. The state-owned hill forests in the colony area cover 79 square miles and are mostly inaccessible except for the lower slopes. Recent assessments in the Protectorate forests, now being worked for the supply of logs to sawmills, show that half of these forests are also likely to prove inaccessible, owing to the steep terrain.

Production

Until the establishment of the two wartime sawmills at Kasewe and No. 2 River all timber was sawn by hand. The present farming producing units are the Forest Industries Branch at Kenema and the Katima Sawmills, Ltd. at Panguma. The former (and the larger) unit are operated by Government as a source of sawn timber, joinery, furniture, and charcoal and as a training ground for African craftsmen. The smaller is privately owned, and has an output of 80,000 cu. ft. of sawn timber cut by bandsaws.

Both sawmills are situated in the South-Eastern Province not far from the Liberian border, and the freight on sawn wood sent 225 miles by rail to Freetown makes the local product almost as expensive as the imported wood. There is, however, a large and growing market in the Kenema and Bo Districts which absorbs the bulk of the output of both sawn timber and furniture.

The demand exceeds the output of these two mills and a considerable amount of sawn wood is imported from Ghana and used for furniture and construction in Freetown. Pitsawing continues to be practised on a small scale in districts not supplied by the two sawmills. There is no export of timber.

During the year the Forest Department's sawmill at Kenema cut 241,434 cu. ft. of sawn timber, the best of which was used to produce furniture sold for £37,219. As a by-product 3,543, seventy-pound bags of charcoal were produced from sawmill waste: of these 2,687 bags were exported to England. The sawmill also produced a small output of joinery and prefabricated huts. The total revenue of the plant was £148,039, of which £108,007 came from sales of sawn timber.

The Kenema plant is still in process of development, the object being to make the best use of the varied timbers in the accessible

forests. During the year an extension was completed to the furniture workshop and preparations made for the direct supply of electricity to the plant by underground cable.

The timbers range from the extremely hard and durable *Lophira slata*, the commonest large tree over much of the forest, to the valuable, but rare, *Entandrophragma* and soft utility woods which are perishable unless impregnated with preservative. Over thirty species are regularly cut and each forest opened produces new species which are tried and tested in use.

During 1957 the qualities of Bovui (*Hannoa klaineana*) have been realised. It is white, light in weight and maintains its shape, and is thus a valuable wood in furniture for unseen parts of drawers and cupboards. It is also easy to grow and the Conservation Branch has already a large stock of this species in the nursery.

Some new species have been imported from abroad in the hope that they will prove valuable in the future. The most important of these is Caribbean pine (*Pinus caribaea*) which has grown most successfully on the sandy soil at Newton in the colony, reaching two feet in ten months. This is a potential source of constructional wood, paper, turpentine and resin. Other introductions are mahogany (*Sweitenia macrophylla*) *Tabebuia pentaphylla* and *Cordia sp.* from Trinidad.

Staff

The staff position remained unsatisfactory.

The new Chief Conservator arrived in January. Two Forest Assistants were sent on a two year course at the Imperial Forestry Institute, Oxford, in September, and there were two new appointments to the Senior Staff, leaving four vacancies (1 in abeyance) in the establishment of eight Assistant Conservators' posts. The Forest Industries Branch was more fully staffed in its senior ranks but there is still a great lack of suitable Africans to understudy the European technicians.

The established staff of the department comprised:

The Chief Conservator

(a) Conservation Branch

- 1 Conservator
- 2 Senior Assistant Conservators of Forests
- 8 Assistant Conservators of Forests (1 frozen and 3 vacant)
- 4 Forest Assistants
- 59 Junior Officers (pensionable), 6 vacant
- 54 Junior Officers (non-pensionable), 4 vacant

(b) Forest Industries Branch

- 1 Conservator
- 1 Forest Engineer
- 2 Chief Supervisors of Forest Works
- 5 Supervisors of Forest Works
- 1 Assistant Supervisor of Forest Works
- 50 Junior Officers (pensionable)
- 6 Junior Officers (non-pensionable), 1 vacant

Local training in surveying was given to a class of Surveyors and Forest Rangers at Kenema. The lack of surveyors has made it necessary to use Rangers for this work and give them adequate training.

The forest headquarters of the Northern Division was moved from Batkanu to Makeni in August.

FISHERIES

With the exception of five privately-owned European ocean-going fishing trawlers sea fishing is necessarily confined to inshore waters and estuaries. The fish most sought after is "bonga" (*Ethmalosa fimbriata*), large shoals of which are found in the shallow coastal waters at certain seasons of the year. Fishing for "bonga" is carried out with cast nets worked from large dug-out canoes. Other fishing methods used include beach seine nets, handlines fished from canoes, and fish pounds or fences.

The supply of fish in the Freetown area in particular has been enhanced by the catches of the five trawlers at present fishing in Sierra Leone. These catches are particularly welcome to consumers during the rainy season when supplies by local fishermen are usually inadequate.

Rivers and lakes are fished to the limit of their potential and yield a useful seasonal catch. No estimate of such landings has been attempted but the quantity obtained from this source falls far short of the needs of the people in the interior.

Statistics are not available for numbers engaged in the fishing industry or of the numbers of boats, canoes, seine nets and fish fences. A very rough estimate of total landings of sea fish is 5,000 tons a year.

The fishing industry is virtually controlled by the fish traders (almost invariably women), who provide the capital required for the purchase of gear and other expenses. This is repaid by the fishermen in kind from their catches. Marketing is done almost entirely by these traders who take delivery of the fish as soon as it is landed, the whole of the catches being sold locally. Little use is made of refrigeration in the distribution of fish and processing is confined to the drying and smoking of fish intended for sale in the interior.

Prices vary greatly and it is generally accepted that the traders make excessive profits, ranging from 100 to 200 per cent. The quantity of fish caught falls far short of the needs of the country and, with rising standards of living, the demand is increasing.

The West African Fisheries Research Institute was closed during the year. It has been replaced by a joint fisheries development and research unit which will confine its activities to Sierra Leone. Apart from research it is intended to demonstrate improved methods of fishing by means of powered craft and to encourage local fishermen to adopt these methods.

MINING

Rights to prospect and mine are granted by the Governor on behalf of the Crown in which the property and control of all minerals is vested by law.

Apart from diamonds the prospecting for and mining of which is governed by special legislation designed to protect agreements already entered into, and to safeguard the interest of the licensed native alluvial diamond miners, prospecting for minerals is permitted under a prospecting right or under an exclusive prospecting licence granted for a term of one year. The holder of a prospecting right, fee £5 per annum, may prospect for the mineral for which the right is granted over any part of Sierra Leone which has not been closed to prospecting. He may also apply for an exclusive prospecting licence which reserves to him the sole right to prospect within a specified area for the mineral specified therein. The licence is granted upon payment of a fee of £5 per square mile per annum and is renewable annually up to a maximum of three years in the case of a licence granted for prospecting for an alluvial mineral and up to six years when it is for a lode mineral.

Mining may be done under a mining right or lease. A mining right is granted to enable the working of small stream deposits of an area not exceeding 880 yards along the stream and within 100 yards from its centre. It is granted for a year and is renewable. The fee is £1 per 100 yards annually. A mining lease may be granted to mine either alluvial or lode deposits and may be over any area for any term varying from five to 99 years. Mining leases and mining rights cover the exclusive right to enter upon the land to mine and to dispose of the minerals specified in the lease or right and upon payment of royalty, mineral and surface rents. Mineral rents are generally for lode leases 10/- per acre, and for alluvial leases 5/- per acre; or as may be prescribed for special leases.

There is also provision for natives of Sierra Leone to obtain licences for prospecting and mining gold or diamonds in chiefdoms that have been declared Alluvial Gold Mining Areas or Alluvial Diamond Mining Areas. Mining and prospecting for alluvial diamond by natives of Sierra Leone, and also dealing in and exporting rough and uncut diamond, are regulated by a separate Ordinance, the Alluvial Diamond Mining Ordinance, 1956. The provisions of this law as regards fees and the areas compassed by licences differ considerably from those of the Minerals Ordinance. The Alluvial Diamond Mining Ordinance does not apply to the Sierra Leone Selection Trust which has been mining diamond in Sierra Leone since 1934 and which is the subject of special agreements, ratified by Ordinance.

The following table shows the total exports of minerals (other than illicit exports of diamonds) and their estimated value:

Mineral	1956		1957	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
		£		£
Chromite (ton) . . .	18,774	194,630	16,378	170,198
Diamond (carat) . . .	647,797	3,457,385	863,202	6,425,197
Gold (oz.)	452	4,741	—	—
Platinum (oz.)	—	—	4.61	106
Iron Ore (ton)	1,328,019	4,003,016	1,444,542	4,380,343

Gold was not produced during 1957. Mr. A. Woehrling surrendered his three special mining leases on the Pampana river, and the dredge was advertised for sale. The Yemen Company Limited continue to hold three leases in Valunia Chiefdom.

Chromite was first discovered in Sierra Leone by the Geological Survey Department in 1929 and deposits are at present being worked by the Sierra Leone Chrome Mines Company Limited at Ngerihun near Hangha. During 1957 production continued by underground methods, the total production being 9,686 tons lump ore and 6,030 tons concentrates. The company continued to prospect for further deposits in the area of their special exclusive prospecting licence.

Iron ore is found in several districts and large deposits of known economic importance exist in the Marampa Chiefdom of the Port Loko District and in the mountains between Sokoya and Sakasakala on the eastern bank of the Tonkolili river. The ore is mined by the Sierra Leone Development Company, Limited, in the Marampa Chiefdom from two deposits on the Ghafal and Masaboin hills. During the year, two grades were produced: "red ore," which is hard lateritic haematite in lump form and is now almost worked out, and "powder ore" which is concentrated from the underlying schists. In the Tonkolili concession, 90 miles to the north-east of Marampa, the company began a comprehensive proving programme with adits on their Simbili deposits. Surveys were continued of the areas for location of the works and township. Alignment of the proposed railway continued.

Diamonds are produced by the Sierra Leone Selection Trust Limited, which holds a monopoly for prospecting, production and marketing of diamonds over two areas amounting together to about 500 square miles in the Kono and Kenema districts, and also by native miners and native firms under the provisions of the Alluvial Diamond Mining Ordinance. The diamonds are all mined from alluvial deposits over a large area of the south eastern part of the Protectorate. The Selection Trust excavates the gravel by mechanical earth moving equipment and transports it by dumpers or endless rope haulage to be concentrated in pan plants, nine of which were working throughout the year in Kono District. The company continued the opening up and development of the Tongo area in

Kenema District and new plant which cost about £550,000 was brought into operation in July.

It is estimated that a local labour force of some 60,000 was employed on licensed mining under the Alluvial Diamond Mining Ordinance and produced nearly half a million carats during the year almost entirely by hand methods. All diamonds produced under this scheme are sold to the Diamond Corporation, Sierra Leone, Limited.

The British Titan Products Company Limited continued in partnership with the Columbia-Southern Chemicals Corporation, of the United States of America, prospecting for titanium-bearing minerals (rutile and ilmenite) within their special exclusive prospecting licence area of 2,360 square miles covering parts of the Bonthe, Bo, Moyamba and Pukehun Districts. A 400-ton sample was prepared for shipment to the United States of America for full scale separation tests.

Platinum occurs in alluvial deposits in the gravel of streams flowing in the Colony Hills. One prospector exported 4.61 oz. valued at £106 during 1957. Platinum was produced previously from 1929 to 1941 and 1945 to 1949. However, it is believed that the known deposits are nearing exhaustion.

The Mines Department

Generally the Mines Department advises the Government through the Ministry of Lands, Mines and Labour on all matters affecting mining and mining policy and is responsible for the administration of the Minerals Ordinance, the Alluvial Diamond Mining Ordinance and the Machinery (Safe Working and Inspection) Ordinance and their connected rules. The department inquired into all accidents reported under these Ordinances and was also responsible for licensing explosives magazines for mining purposes and for examining and granting certificates of competence to handle explosives.

The technical staff and their duties are as follows:

- | | |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Chief Inspector of Mines: | Advisory, administration of Minerals Ordinance, Alluvial Diamond Mining Ordinance and Machinery Ordinance. Inspection of mines. Safety in mines and of mining machinery. |
| 2 Assistant Chief Inspectors of Mines: | One in charge of the Alluvial Diamond Mining Scheme and one to assist the Chief Inspector of Mines. |
| 2 Inspectors of Mines: | One for the Alluvial Diamond Mining Scheme and one for general technical work, mines inspections and accident inquiries. |
| 6 Area Superintendents: | Supervising Alluvial Diamond Mining Areas. |

GEOLOGICAL SURVEYS

The Senior Service Staff of the Department at the end of 1957 consisted of the Director, the Assistant Director, five Geologists, one Mining Geologist, one Temporary Geologist, one Prospector and one Diamond Driller. The temporary part-time Cartographer left the Geological Survey at the end of 1956. A Temporary Geologist was appointed in March to fill a post which had been vacant since the beginning of the year. Two posts for Geologists and one post for a Cartographer remained vacant.

Progress was made during the year in the geological mapping of selected areas of Sierra Leone. The mapping was based on topographical maps prepared in the department from aerial photographs on the scale 1:32,000. The geological maps are being re-drawn in the department on this scale for despatch to the Directorate of Overseas Surveys in the United Kingdom where they will be reduced for printing and publication on the scale of 1:50,000.

Sheets 1 and 2 of the Sula Mountains schist belt map were published late in the year and are obtainable in the United Kingdom from Messrs. Stanford, Limited, 12-14, Long Acre, London, W.C.2, at 5/- each. The loss of the services of the temporary part-time Cartographer brought to a standstill the preparation of the remaining sheets of the Sula Mountains-Kangari Hills schist belt map.

The areas geologically mapped in 1957 include part of the Valunia Chiefdom at the southern end of the Kangari Hills schist belt, about 100 square miles at the northern end of the Kambui Hills schist belt, 240 square miles in the Gola Forest area of Kenema District, 45 square miles of the Gori Hills on Topographic Survey Sheet No. 67, about 150 square miles in the vicinity of Gbangbama on Topographic Sheets Nos. 84 and 94, and about 95 square miles of the Nimini Hills on Topographic Survey Sheets No. 55 and the northern part of No. 66.

Mapping in the Gola Forest area was done mainly in the valleys of the Mano and Maho rivers, just north-west of the Liberian Frontier. The rocks, in order of age from old to young, consist of granulites, synkinematic granite, granodiorite and diorite, metamorphic ultrabasic intrusive, late kinematic granite, gabbro and related norite and harzburgite-saxonite and finally dolerites and basalts. The granulites comprise quartzites, magnetite-quartz-hypersthene iron stones, and pyroxene amphibole-plagioclase-quartz rocks and perkinites with or without hypersthene. Rocks younger than the late-kinematic granite are not metamorphic though the pyroxene in the gabbro is unaltered. The general trend is NE or NNE and the granulitic rocks form bodies up to 10 miles long by 4 miles wide which commonly stand out as hills and hill ranges.

A composite dyke of gabbro, hypersthene gabbro, norite and harzburgite, with the more basic rocks everywhere on the south-eastern side, trends ENE for 25 miles through the country mapped. A steep dip NNW and gravitational differentiation may explain the

succession. Dykes of tholeiitic dolerite and basalt that commonly strike south-east parallel to the coast cut all the earlier rocks. Many of the dykes have chilled tachylitic edges and many of them carry large plates of porphyritic plagioclase and up to $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of native copper per ton of rock. An unmetamorphosed sodalite-bearing nepheline syenite was discovered in the Maho river. Rocks of this kind are sometimes associated with carbonatite. The Mano-Maho granulites show a striking resemblance except in their metamorphic facies to the Kambui Schists. Up to 0.25% nickel is found in the harzburgite, but this is not unusual. No platinum has been found in the streams draining the ultrabasics.

Mapping of the Kasila System was begun near Gbangbama where a company is prospecting alluvial rutile discovered some years previously by the Geological Survey. The rocks mapped include a series of banded quartzose metamorphic rocks dipping steeply NE. These are cut by a series of pre-metamorphic basic intrusives whose contacts and banding dip steeply SW. The whole is cut by many dolerite dykes up to about 50 yards in width. The dolerites can be traced, intermittently, for 2 to 3 miles and bear 120° to 130° magnetic. On their seaward side the Kasila rocks are overlapped by a series of muddy sediments.

The mineral garnet is typically present in all the Kasila rocks. The acid gneisses contain quartz, plagioclase and garnet with or without hypersthene, diopside and biotite. Along the line of the Gbangbama hills is a zone where graphite is conspicuous and ilmenite occurs in concordant layers. Rutile is a constant accessory mineral in both the acid and basic metamorphics. The basic gneisses contain garnet, pyroxene, plagioclase with or without quartz, biotite and amphibole. The acid gneisses contain concordant coarse pegmatites with some ilmenite, garnet, pyroxene and graphite in addition to quartz and feldspar.

Mapping in the Nimini Hills in south-western Kono District was begun in the country that lies between Jaiama, Nimi Yema and Jaiama, Nimi Koro. The schist belt is here about $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles wide and trends between N and NNE. But $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles further south and at about $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles north of Baknya the strikes of the rocks of the western part of the schist belt make a geniculate swing from the approximately N-NNE trend to an easterly one and then back to the former trend. South of this bend the schist belt rapidly narrows to less than a mile in width and then gradually lenses out, ending just north of Yomboia. Dips vary from vertical or sub-vertical to as low as 55° in a north or west direction. The schist belt is flanked on its eastern side and, north of Konsoya, on its western side, by granite granodiorite gneisses. South of Konsoya on the western side the flanking rocks are granite and granodiorite which, in some areas, are foliated. Some degree of migmatization is developed at the contact of gneiss with amphibolite but no example of this was seen where the gneisses were in contact with other rock types. The metamorphic rocks comprise variable amphibolites including pyroxene amphibolites,

epidote pyroxene amphibolites, pyroxenites and amphibole (including uralite) pyroxenites, quartzite, fuchsite quartzite, and sillimanite quartzite, olivine tremolite serpentinites and spinel bearing peridotites. The last are quite unlike the spinel bearing peridotites of the Kangari Hills.

Fracturing and faulting are common, especially in the gneisses near the schist contact. Extensive fracturing and minor faulting occur along the Tongo river on the western margin of the schist belt, both in the gneisses and in the schist belt. Very extensive mining for alluvial gold has been carried out along the Tongo, and the area is worth further prospecting for the source of the gold. Similarly along the eastern margin numerous shear zones and epidote veins occur which roughly parallel the Jaiama-Njei fault. Alluvial gold and cassiterite are known to occur in this vicinity. East of Baknya the development of mylonite and the steaking of normally non-gneissose granites are indicative of the more intensive fracturing associated with faulting. Epidote and zoisite replacement of pyroxene and amphibole minerals is common in the rocks bordering these more intense fracture zones.

The department co-operated with officers of the Atomic Energy Authority in a four months survey of uranium and thorium minerals occurring in Sierra Leone. During this work good concentrations of alluvial monazite were discovered in alluvial flats of the Kundelele drainage north of Kondoma. This and other flats between 18 and 27 miles north of Bo along the main Bo motor road are worthy of further prospecting.

A diamond drill hole was sunk at Songo Town to the north of the outcropping ijolite. It showed that the magnetic and gravimetric anomalies there are caused by ijolite with some melteigite all buried beneath 194 feet of sediments.

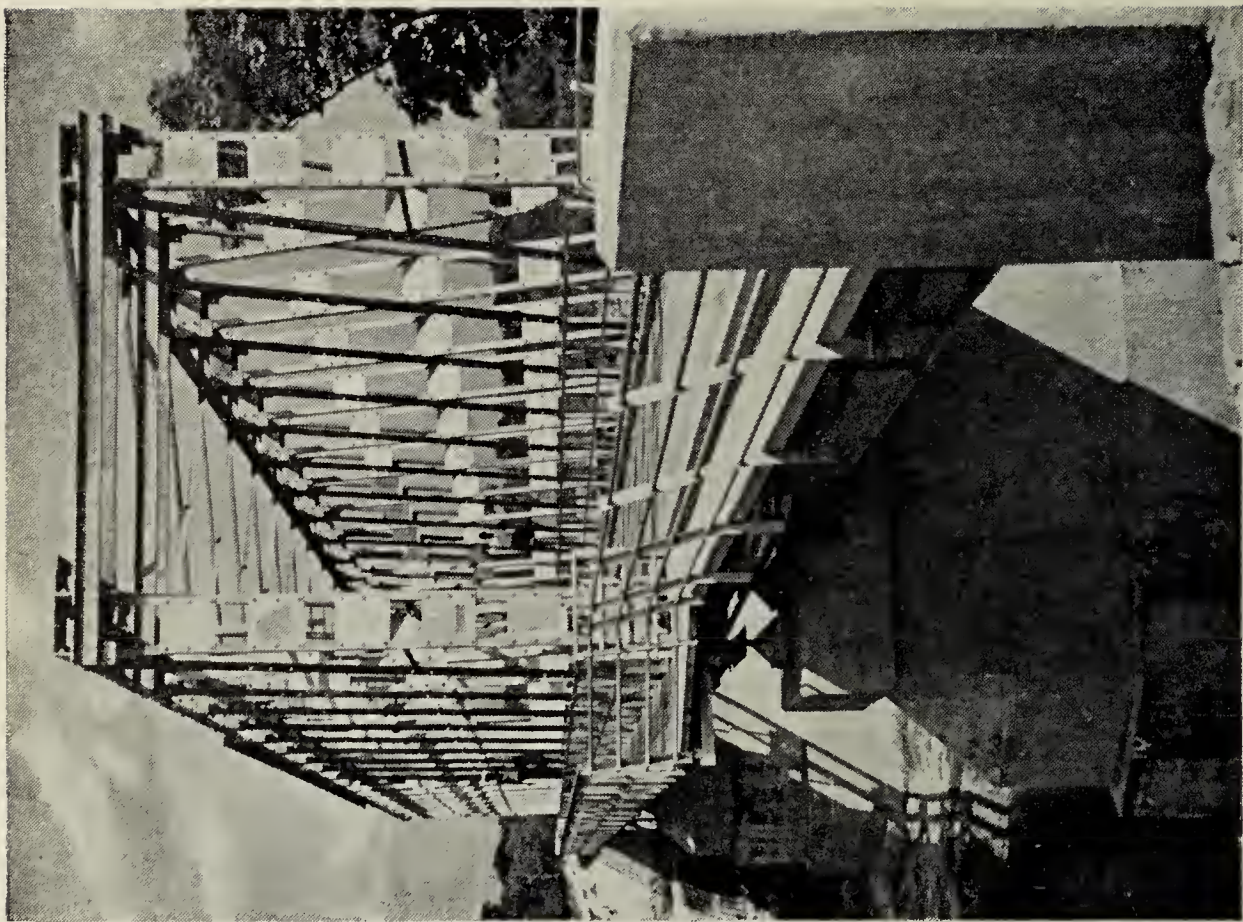
Two diamond drill holes were sunk near Rokell on the eastern side of the Colony basic igneous complex. They show that in the buried transitional contact zone sheets of gabbro intrude the amphibolite country rock which is at first pyroxene-bearing but further below the floor of the lopolith becomes quartzose and rich in epidote.

The gabbro has a granular or even granulitic texture, it contains hornblende and up to $2\frac{1}{2}\%$ of apatite and is virtually devoid of olivine which is generally a characteristic mineral in the lopolith where it outcrops. Pyrite, pyrrhotite and chalcocypite are quite common in the gabbros and norites of the contact zone as sparse disseminations and as coatings on the surface of slips, but the average sulphide content of the rocks is only 0.1%.

The department was called upon to prospect and evaluate a swamp for diamond after diggers had been admitted in error under the diamond licensing scheme and had already mined the greater part of it. A report with an estimate of the value of the deposit before it had been mined was prepared. The department was also called upon to prospect areas selected by the Ministry in the Sando



*Mr. Justice H. J. Lightfoot-Boston, Speaker of the Sierra Leone
House of Representatives*



View of the Bompeh Bridge



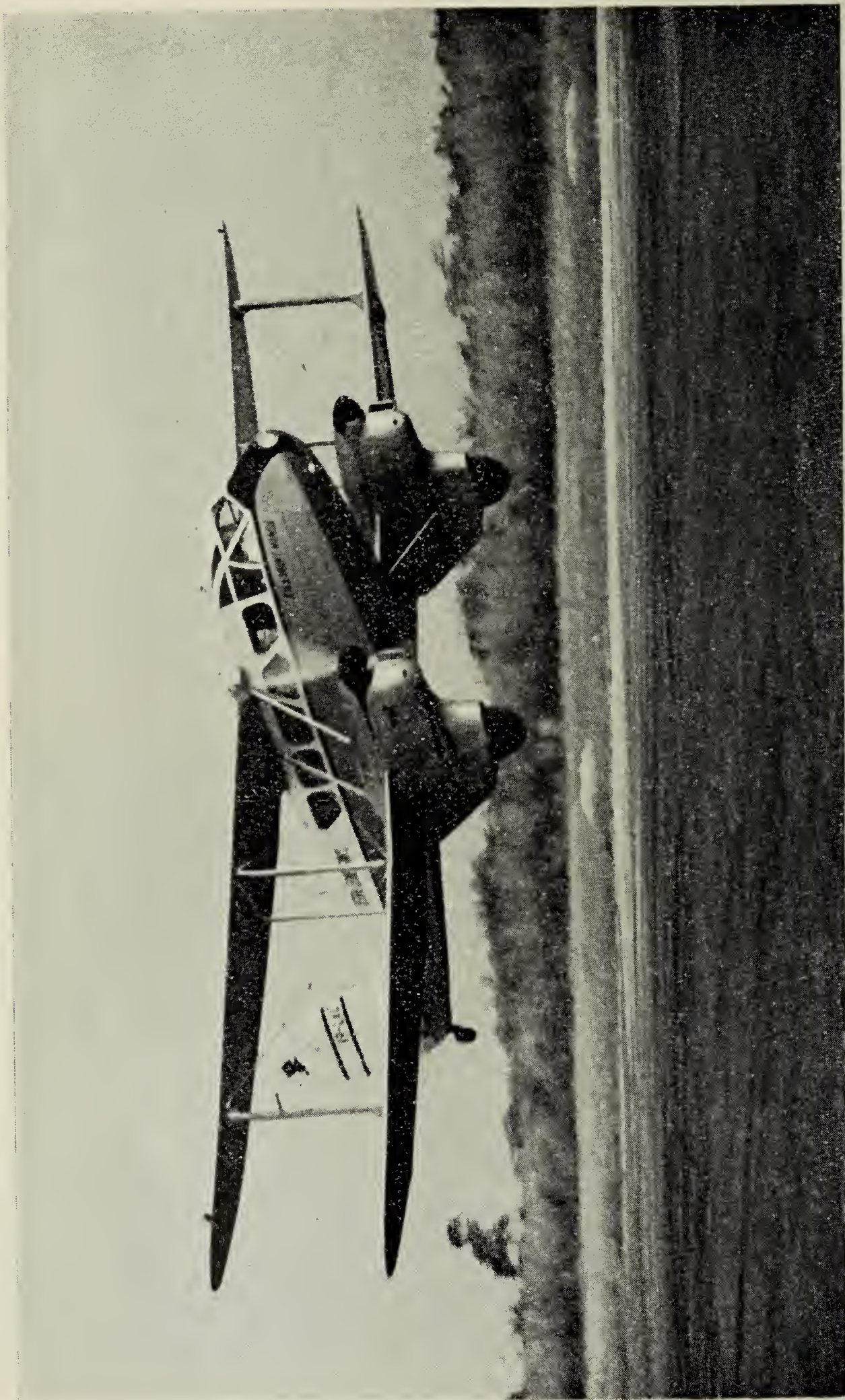
A licensed Diamond Miner washing small pieces of stone in the Sewa River, in a search



Riverside scene at Kasimi



A Susu woman trader selling cloth at Panguma



66 "C-47" taking off from the Freetown Airport, Sierra Leone, 1947

Chieftdom in the hope that deposits of diamond would be found which could be worked under the Alluvial Diamond Mining Scheme. The prospecting although disappointing as regards diamond proved the presence of old river courses previously suspected from an air photograph study of the area.

Geochemical prospecting surveys were carried out in the vicinity of the molybdenite prospect near Dalakuru in the Diang Chieftdom, in the neighbourhood of the rich alluvial gold deposits in the Sig-nakolo and other streams in the Kalansongia Chieftdom, and for nickel at various localities along the eastern side of the basic igneous complex of the Colony.

The department carried out a number of engineering site investigations and sunk an inclined diamond drill hole to intersect the Guma fault at the revised site for the dam.

The department's laboratory staff continued its investigations of rock and mineral specimens submitted by its Geologists and the general public. Numerous parcels of stones seized by the Police were submitted to the department for identification of diamonds, and standard certificates of examination and identification acceptable by the Courts were given by the Director or the Assistant Director.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

This has been a year of steady growth, limited mainly by resources of staff available for supervision. During 1957 the number of societies has increased from 264 to 313; and the business done by them from about £250,000 to about £344,000.

The most important new development has been in the mechanised cultivation of rice. During the last cultivating season, a full scale trial was made with 22 Ferguson tractors with ploughs, harrows and trailers. The target set was 3,000 acres, but in fact about 3,500 acres were successfully ploughed and harrowed. In spite of this, however, the operation was not altogether satisfactory; due to wheel slip the quality of the work suffered, and there were many more breakages and much more wear on equipment than expected. The two main sites had different but nonetheless serious technical troubles. It is thought that these can be dealt with by technical improvements and by closer supervision, and if this proves true expansion can proceed with confidence. For the present societies are charging their members the same fees as were previously charged for similar service by the Department of Agriculture. It seems that so far these fees cover the cost, in spite of some loss due to inexperience, but it is as yet too early to be sure that the rates charged for depreciation are correct.

Marketing Societies

The expansion of rice marketing continues, aided by the fact that the Government minimum price for rice contains an element of subsidy for the internal production of swamp rice. The total value

of rice marketed rose from £34,000 to £59,000, and more societies would have been formed had staff been available to supervise them.

There has been further growth among cocoa and coffee marketing societies, and the value of cocoa and coffee marketed has risen to £126,000 and £25,000 respectively. The 116 societies engaged in marketing cocoa and coffee in the South Eastern Province have been formed into four Unions, the principle object of which is to provide transport for member societies cocoa at fair rates.

Another aim of the unions is the purchase and resale on indent of consumer goods, at present mainly rice, of which £15,000 worth was handled. The Unions are being formed into a Federation which intends to maintain transit stores at each Union headquarters and to apply to become a buying agent of the Produce Marketing Board for cocoa.

The scheme for encouraging small cocoa farmers to extend their farms by granting them long term loans through their societies has been started on a small scale. £2,010 has been distributed in respect of an area of 402 acres. The scheme has aroused a good deal of interest and it is likely that it will be expanded.

Rural Credit

The rural credit scheme is growing fast and is in great demand in all areas. The greatest need at present is for trained staff; without it there is some danger of the reputation of the movement suffering on account of the mistakes of enthusiastic unsupervised imitators. However the limit of Government guaranteed credit controlled by the Registrar has been raised to £100,000 of which some £65,000 is available for short term credit. Loans given out by societies to members during the year amounted to about £87,000. At Potoru in the Pujehun District, around which is the most successful group of rural credit societies, the first credit union has been formed, with the usual main objects of making loans, accepting deposits and supervising and helping primary societies.

The Co-operative Department

Sustained attention is now being given to much needed training. The course for new inspectors has been lengthened, and three local courses have been held for secretaries. A series of local one-day courses for society committee members have been tried with some success and a revision of the local instruction manual is nearly complete. The annual conference of societies in the South-Eastern Province was again honoured by the presence of His Excellency the Governor. Further regional conferences of credit societies were held at Kundowahun in Pujehun District and at Moyamba and of all rice societies and all societies in the South-Western Province at Bo. These conferences have proved instructive and seem to have provided a general stimulus.

Provision was made in 1957 for the appointment of a Deputy Registrar, and though his recruitment was unfortunately delayed, he arrived near the end of August, and greatly strengthened the headquarters staff. During the year the number of Grade I Inspectors was raised from 2 to 4, and in 1958 it is proposed to increase the establishment to 6. A number of the more senior staff have had valuable experience in acting appointments as Assistant Registrars and Co-operative Assistants.

It is heartening to note that there seems to be a growing appreciation of the value of co-operation among all sections of the community. Government has recognised this in the 1958 draft Estimates by approving an increase of over 50% in the department's total expenditure. It seems at once a reward and a challenge.

Chapter 7 : Social Services

EDUCATION

Administration

EDUCATIONAL policy is framed by the Minister of Education (who was the Honourable Mr. A. M. Margai from January to June and the Honourable Mr. H. E. B. John after the June election) with the advice of the Board of Education and the committees on secondary education and the training of teachers.

The headquarters staff of the education department consisted of the Director of Education, the Assistant Director of Education (General), the Principal Education Officer, two Education Officers in charge of finance and examinations respectively, a Supervisor of Physical Education and the Departmental Secretary. The post of Assistant Director of Education (Technical) continued to be combined with that of Principal of the Freetown Technical Institute. The head of the U.N.E.S.C.O. technical assistance mission was attached to headquarters staff.

The close co-operation between the government and missions through the education secretaries, Roman Catholic Mission and United Christian Council has been maintained.

During the year provincial education officers were released from the duties of secretaries to the local education authorities to form an inspectorate. Each local education authority has a supervising teacher who is the executive officer and is directed by the local education authority secretary. The local education authorities deal with all applications for new primary schools and prepare annual estimates in respect of new buildings, repairs, maintenance and school equipment.

In Freetown and the Rural Area of the Colony the administration of primary education continued to be in the hands of the departmental staff. During the year, primary schools in the Sherbro Urban District came under the supervision and administration of the Colony Education office.

Schools

In the Colony primary education is provided in amalgamated schools, assisted schools and unassisted schools.

In the case of amalgamated schools the churches or missions make available the buildings while funds for teachers' salaries, equipment and maintenance are provided by government, the expenditure being partly offset by income from school fees. An unaided international primary school was opened in Freetown during 1957.

In the Protectorate there are three government primary schools and 396 assisted primary schools; the latter are managed by local education authorities or voluntary agencies, the salaries of teachers being met almost entirely from government funds. One new unassisted school was opened in 1957, making two unassisted schools in the provinces.

In the Colony and Protectorate 37 new primary schools were opened during 1957 and the increase in enrolment over the previous year was slightly more than 5,800 children.

In primary schools the basic course is of six years duration but it is probable that the government's policy will be to add a seventh year whenever that becomes possible.

Secondary education for pupils between the ages of 12+ and 18+ years was provided in 11 government and assisted schools in the Colony and in 11 schools in the provinces. Two unassisted schools in the Colony enrolled 266 girls and 302 boys.

Results of the school certificate and higher school certificate examinations for 1956 were as follows:

	<i>Entries</i>		<i>Passes</i>	
	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>
School Certificate . . .	140	56	76	33
Higher School Certificate .	12	—	6	—

Teacher Training

The training of non-graduate teachers was undertaken in the teacher training department of Fourah Bay College and at five institutions in the provinces, viz. government colleges at Magburaka (co-educational) and Njala, Roman Catholic colleges at Bo (for men) and Kenema (for women) and the United Christian Council college at Bunumbu (co-educational).

Students at Fourah Bay College are prepared for the Sierra Leone Teachers Advanced Certificate (a 3-year post school certificate course) and the Teachers Certificate (a 2-year course of training for students with some secondary education or a 1-year post Teachers Elementary Certificate course of training for practising teachers).

Fourah Bay College also provides supplementary courses for qualified teachers capable of deriving benefit from specialist training. In the provinces all five colleges provide a 3-year course leading to the Teachers Elementary Certificate. In 1957 the number of teachers

in training was 615, which showed an increase of 49 on the figures for the preceeding year.

There are 3 assisted pre-training centres for teachers in the provinces. These centres provide a one-year course to raise the educational level of boys who teach infant classes in primary schools and may later take the full course in the training colleges. The enrolment during 1957 was 104.

University Education

Higher education in Sierra Leone is carried out at Fourah Bay College, a university college affiliated to the University of Durham. The college is an autonomous institution with an independent governing council, and students are prepared for the degrees of B.A. (general studies) B.A. (economic studies) and B.Sc. of the University of Durham. There are also courses for post-graduate diplomas in Education and Theology and for the diploma course in Public Administration and Ministerial courses.

The number of students reading for degrees and diplomas and undergoing training for the Ministry in June, 1957 was 265 of which 111 were Nigerian students.

Technical Education

Building continued throughout the year at the Technical Institutes at Wilberforce and Kenema. At Kenema two senior staff quarters, two dormitories and a welding shop were completed. At Wilberforce one of the completed projects is a new block of classrooms forming a first stage in the building of a Technical Secondary school. The range of courses held in 1957 is indicated by the following figures:

Full-time students, engineering, masonry and carpentry,	
painting and metal work	191
commercial students	99
telecommunications	9
Evening students in a variety of subjects, both	
technical and academic	488

Examination successes were as follows:

City and Guilds	11
Royal Society of Arts (commercial)	30

Scholarships

The Government continued its policy of awarding a large number of scholarships for secondary and higher education. The number of scholarships held in 1957 was as follows:

	1956	1957
Higher School Certificate Studies at Secondary Schools	46	65
Post School Certificate Studies at Fourah Bay College	12	14
Higher Education—Fourah Bay College and Overseas	252	302
Secondary Education	1,053	1,416
Teacher Training	566	583

Events of the Year

Important events of the year included:

- (i) An Ordinance to amend the Education Ordinance 1953 was passed by Legislative Council and this enabled an employee of a Local Education Authority to act as secretary of the Authority;
- (ii) Regulations for the conduct of business at meetings of Local Education Authorities were issued;
- (iii) A firm of architects was commissioned as consultants for the expanding programme of educational buildings;
- (iv) A decision was taken to recommend the establishment in Sierra Leone of an office of the West African Examinations Council.

Primary and Secondary Schools

The numbers of schools, of children enrolled and of teachers were:

<i>Schools</i>	1956			1957		
	<i>No.</i>	<i>Numbers of Pupils Teachers</i>		<i>No.</i>	<i>Numbers of Pupils Teachers</i>	
<i>Government</i>						
Primary . .	5	1,484	42	5	1,655	49
Secondary . .	6	1,345	73	7	1,346	74
<i>Aided</i>						
Primary . .	432	50,174	1,621	465	55,545	1,720
Secondary . .	15	3,910	209	15	4,010	221
<i>Unassisted</i>						
Primary . .	23	4,362	93	27	4,681	94
Secondary . .	2	521	24	2	568	16
TOTAL . .	483	61,796	2,062	521	67,805	2,174

Teacher Training

The number of students attending training centres and numbers of trained teachers entering the schools in 1956 and 1957 were as follows:

<i>Institutions</i>	<i>1956</i>		<i>1957</i>	
	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Left and Teaching</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Left and Teaching</i>
Fourah Bay College . . .	118 (+ 4 Dip. Ed.)	71	120 (+ 5 Dip. Ed.)	65
Bo Roman Catholic Training College	115	23	150	46
Union College Bunumbu	127	40	129	36
Magburaka Government College	133	42	115	42
Njala Government College	41	—	61	16
Holy Rosary College, Kenema	32	—	40	17
TOTALS	570	176	620	222
Pre-Training Centres (3)	110	—	104	—
Diploma in Education	4	—	—	—

Fourah Bay College

<i>Courses</i>	<i>Academic Year 1955-56</i>	<i>Academic Year 1956-57 *</i>
Diplomas in Education	4	5
Arts degree (General)	106	58
Arts degree (Economics)	73	26
Science degree	33	29
Ministerial and Public Administration	9	15
Preliminary and General Certificate of Education (Science)	19	15
Teacher Training (Non-Graduate)	118	120
	362	268

* Sierra Leone students only.

Scholarship Holders Overseas in 1956-57

<i>Course of Study:</i>	<i>U.K.</i>	<i>Elsewhere</i>
Agriculture	5	—
Accountancy	1	—
Architecture	4	—
Art	1	—
Building	4	—
Education:		
M.A. (Ordinary)	2	—
B.Sc.Dip.Ed.	29	2
B.Sc. (Sociology)	1	—
B.A. (Hons.) Dip.Ed.	1	—
B.A. (Hons.) Mod. Greats.	1	—
B.A. (Hons.) Theology	1	—
Hons. Maths., Dip.Ed. and post-graduate work	6	—
B.A. (Econ.)	2	—
Teacher Training	2	—
Physical Education	6	—
Domestic Science	1	2 (Ghana)
Radiography	3	—
Dentistry	5	1 (U.S.A.)
Dental Mechanics	1	—
Medicine	21	2 (Nigeria) 2 (Switzerland) 2 (Germany)
Veterinary	2	—
Pharmacy	1	—
Engineering:		
Civil	16	—
Electrical	5	—
Mining	1	—
Quantity Surveying	1	—
Radio	1	—
Telecommunications	2	—
Geology	1	—
Dramatic Art	1	—
Music	1	—
Librarianship	2	—
Secretarial	4	—
Cinematography	—	1 (France)
Diploma in Public Administration	2	—
Cabinet Making	2	—
Institutional Catering	3	—
Monumental Masonry	1	—
Motor Mechanics	1	—
Photography	1	—
Radio Mechanics	2	—
Tailoring	4	—
Mechanical Engineering	10	—
	<hr/> 161	<hr/> 12

TOTAL 173

Expenditure on Education

Title	Government Education Development Funds		Local Authorities		Voluntary Agencies		Government Education Department only	
	1956 actual	1957 approximate	1956 actual	1957 approximate	1956 actual	1957 approximate	1956 actual	1957 approximate
<i>Recurrent</i>	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Administration, Inspection and Office Equipment	89,920	98,803	12,427	15,861	10,072	11,066	89,920	98,803
Board and Lodging	32,773	33,419	—	—	—	—	32,773	33,419
Maintenance of School Buildings, Furniture and Equipment	28,686	46,514	40,631	45,730	—	—	28,686	46,514
Scholarships, Overseas and Regional	80,217	111,998	—	—	—	—	76,810	111,998
Post Secondary Institutions	130,000	147,725	315	254	3,615	3,615	130,000	147,725
Secondary Schools	132,200	148,867	777	781	38,161	39,406	132,200	148,867
Primary Schools	340,133	380,257	6,599	7,109	—	—	340,133	380,257
Teacher-training Colleges and Courses	76,165	98,056	—	—	—	—	76,165	98,056
Other Vocational Schools and Courses	41,250	52,673	—	—	—	—	41,250	52,673
Other Expenditure	13,129	24,976	10,247	13,097	—	—	12,859	24,801
Total Recurrent	964,473	1,143,288	70,996	82,832	51,848	54,087	960,796	1,143,113
<i>Capital</i>								
Expenditure on Buildings	316,048	319,229	29,178	26,489	—	—	195,808	124,239
GRAND TOTAL	1,280,521	1,462,517	100,174	109,321	51,848	54,087	1,156,604	1,267,352

PUBLIC HEALTH

General Health

Without a full and up-to-date census it is not possible to give accurate statistics of birth rates and death rates. Available vital statistics are given below pp. 69—70. Only a very small proportion of deaths are certified by qualified medical practitioners and therefore detailed statistics of mortality from the principal diseases cannot be given, but records of diseases and deaths in government hospitals indicate the most important observed causes of disease and mortality. The recorded infant mortality rate in Freetown was 141.14 infant deaths per 1,000 live births, but this figure is probably affected by under-registration of births. Outside Freetown maternity services are still relatively undeveloped, and infant mortality is believed to be very high.

The chief diseases and causes of death in hospital returns are the infective and parasitic diseases. Skin diseases, gastro-intestinal infections and infestation, respiratory infections and gonorrhoea are very common. Important endemic diseases are malaria, yaws, leprosy, trypanosomiasis, schistosomiasis, filariasis and tuberculosis. Nutritional deficiencies and anaemias are also important causes of sickness. An increasing cause of admission to hospitals is motor traffic accidents, which increased eightfold during the past four years, with over 3,000 accidents treated in 1956. Accidental falls from palm trees are another important cause of admission to hospitals.

Health in the Diamond Areas

During 1957 the rapid social changes and instability caused by the development of diamond mining still presented the chief problems in public health and social medicine. By the end of 1956, very large numbers of Africans from a large area of West Africa extending from the Atlantic Coast to Northern Nigeria South of the desert, had been attracted into the South-Eastern Province seeking their fortunes from diamond-digging, or from trade brought by the diggers. In November, 1956, Government took action to remove "strangers" or "native foreigners" from the diamond digging areas in the South Eastern and South Western Provinces and some 40,000 people left the areas and dispersed within a month.

Smallpox had been concealed in the insanitary mushroom settlements that had grown up and this dispersal of population resulted in a serious and widespread epidemic of small pox. It was particularly bad in the first quarter of the year, and all reports indicated that the source of the epidemic was the diamond mining areas. One factor in its spread was the complete ignorance of local people of the dangers of infection, as people sick with obvious smallpox were regularly carried on lorries as passengers back to their homes from the diamond areas. Many smallpox cases were stopped in lorries at Bo where a large camp was opened, and many also were stopped at

Waterloo when attempting to come to Freetown. Another factor was the very great increase in motor traffic and increased speed of movement due to the replacement of ferries by bridges. The numerous ferries on Sierra Leone roads formerly made excellent sanitary posts. The re-establishment of diggers in previously evacuated villages, and their subsequent dispersal by police action later in the year again gave rise to anxiety.

But there has been no repetition of the serious epidemic early in the year and intensive vaccination campaigns appear to have established immunity sufficient to control the disease. Over 4,700 cases were notified during the year, 4,000 of these being notified in the first six months of the year, and nearly half of them in the first quarter.

Energetic sanitary measures were taken to deal with the situation, by vaccination, the isolation and treatment of the sick, and the destruction of unfit and infected huts in mining areas after they had been abandoned. Plans were made for orderly housing and sanitation in areas where licensed mining is permitted, and 835,644 vaccinations were performed during the year.

Influenza was first notified during 1957 in the week ending 7th September. There was a sudden out-break with 97 notifications in Freetown and 77 notifications elsewhere in this first week. The disease as has been recorded elsewhere (in Holland) was first diagnosed among schoolchildren, and coincidentally with the first out-break at Freetown were reports of school outbreaks in places as widely separated as Makeni and Kabala. By the end of September, 4,362 cases had been notified in Freetown, and 4,325 elsewhere.

Notifications fell rapidly in October, and after November there were only 4 notifications; the total number of notified cases being 5,434 in Freetown and 5,244 elsewhere. The mortality from the disease appears to have been very small or negligible. In Freetown rather more deaths were registered in September than in any other month, but this does not appear to be greater than the usual seasonal increase of mortality during the rains. Symptoms were very similar to those described in other epidemics.

Hospital and Health Centre services

The government medical service is responsible for the bulk of the country's hospital services. There are base hospitals at Freetown and Bo, with rural hospitals in the principal towns of each administrative district, with one additional hospital at Lungi airport. Two new hospitals were opened during the year, one at Lungi airport and the other at Koidu in Kono District. Of the five new hospitals built under Colonial Development and Welfare grants only that at Kambia was not open by the end of 1957. A new maternity ward built with a Colonial Development and Welfare grant was opened in Freetown at the Princess Christian Maternity Hospital.

Ancillary to the hospital services are a number of Health Centres. A Health Centre contains a dispensary, a small maternity and child welfare unit, and a sanitary office and store, with a staff of a dispenser, a midwife, and a health inspector. Twenty two new Health Centres were planned under Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes, and all of these were completed by the end of 1956. In addition to qualified midwives village girls are trained at suitable centres as village Maternity Assistants. They return to their villages after training in the conduct of normal confinements to practise domiciliary midwifery in association with the qualified midwives at Health Centres and hospitals.

The government also gives grants-in-aid to approved missionary hospitals and the missions provide an important part of the hospital services. Two mining companies also have hospitals which provide excellent service for their employees.

Public Health Services

The public health department of the government medical service is responsible for all port and airport sanitation, the control of infectious and epidemic diseases, for malaria control schemes, and for sanitation in Freetown. Elsewhere, environmental sanitation is the responsibility of native authorities, special health authorities, and the town and district councils of Bo, Sherbro, and the Rural Areas of the Colony. All local authority sanitation is supervised by the government health department's medical officers and health superintendents.

Endemic diseases control

Certain important endemic diseases are controlled by a field medical unit of the Government medical service, the Endemic Diseases Control Unit. The endemic diseases with which the unit is concerned at present are trypanosomiasis, yaws and leprosy. The Unit continued with a W.H.O./U.N.I.C.E.F. scheme started in 1956. For eliminating yaws with penicillin, 220,000 people were treated in the Northern and South-Eastern Provinces in 1957, a grand total of 450,000 treatments in the two years in which the campaign has been conducted. Resurveys of treated areas showed a substantial reduction in yaws, and hospital admissions of yaws in the areas treated were much reduced. Equipment and penicillin have been provided by U.N.I.C.E.F. A W.H.O. team of a serologist, Senior Medical Officer and Public Health Nurse took part in the campaign during the year and operated on the Liberian border in the South-Eastern Province.

The British Leprosy Relief Association appointed a leprosy layworker to Sierra Leone to start a preliminary survey.

In December, Dr. Charles Ross, O.B.E., a specialist leprologist, was seconded from the medical service of the Northern Region of

Nigeria to make a three months' survey and advise the Sierra Leone Government on measures for the treatment of leprosy.

In July the virus research unit of West African Council of Medical Research carried out a quick survey of virus diseases, including yellow fever. W.A.C.M.R. also financed an entomological survey of malaria control in Freetown by Mr. R. Elliott, Entomologist to the Malaria Service of the Federal Medical Department of Nigeria, which confirmed that existing methods of entomological malaria control are satisfactory and give a high degree of protection from malaria in the City of Freetown.

Early in the year, Dr. the Hon. W. S. Maclay, C.B., O.B.E., F.R.C.P., Senior Commissioner of the Board of Control of the United Kingdom Ministry of Health, paid a visit at the request of the Sierra Leone Government to inspect and advise the Government on arrangements for the treatment of mental disease. His comprehensive and valuable report, recommending the provision of small ward-blocks for treatment of mental disease in all hospitals, improvements at the existing Mental Hospital at Kissy, and the recruitment of a psychiatrist to the medical staff has been accepted in principle by the Government.

U.N.I.C.E.F. have also approved a scheme for the supply of equipment for 14 Health Centres, for teaching equipment in training centres, for midwifery kits, and for skimmed milk, at an estimated cost of \$22,000.

Births and Deaths Registered in Freetown and the Colony, 1957

Live Births

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Freetown	2,007	1,911	3,918
Rural Areas	797	808	1,605
Bonthe Sherbro	65	62	127
	2,869	2,781	5,650

Deaths

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Freetown	1,230	964	2,194
Rural Areas	757	605	1,352
Bonthe Sherbro	91	95	196
	2,078	1,664	3,742

In Freetown, registrations of births and infant deaths in 1957 were as follows:

	Male	Female	Total
Live Births	2,007	1,911	3,918
Stillbirths	117	92	209
Deaths Under 1 year of age	315	238	553

Infant mortality rate (deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births) 141.14
 Still-birth rate (stillbirths per 1,000 births) 50.8

Freetown Infant Mortality Rates for the past Nine Years

1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
158	148	119	143	116	110	124.9	132.55	141.14

In the Rural Areas of the Colony, registrations of births and infant deaths were:

	Male	Female	Total
Live Births	797	808	1,605
Deaths under 12 months	154	129	283

In the Sherbro Judicial District, registrations of births and infant deaths were:

	Male	Female	Total
Live Births	65	62	127
Deaths under 12 months	11	18	29

*List of Government Medical Staff—1957. Approved Establishment
 Headquarters and Administration*

- 1 Director of Medical Services
- 1 Deputy Director of Medical Services
- 1 Assistant Director of Medical Services
- 1 Secretary
- 1 Storekeeper and Inspecting Pharmacist
- 1 Chief Clerk
- 4 First Grade Clerks
- 45 Second and Third Grade Clerks
- 1 Stock Verifier
- 1 Assistant Stock Verifier
- 2 Assistant Storekeepers and Inspecting Pharmacists
- 1 Sub-Accountant

3	Hospital Secretaries	1
5	Store Assistants, Grade I	10
4	Store Assistants, Grade II	73
9	Store Assistants, Grade III	1
5	Store Issuers	1
4	Packers	7
13	Messengers	2
6	Telephone Operators	

Medical

1	Senior Specialist	
4	Specialists	
1	Senior Medical Officer	
35	Medical Officers	
1	Medical Officer Supervising Maternity Services	
6	Dental Surgeons	
2	Physiotherapists	
1	Almoner	
1	Psychiatric Welfare Officer	
1	Occupational Therapist	
6	Radiographers	
1	Matron	
2	Senior Nursing Sisters	
14	Nursing Sisters	
3	Health Sisters	
1	Supervisor of Midwifery	
1	Chief Dispenser	
1	Chief Surgical Assistant	
3	Assistant Chief Dispensers	
1	Senior Surgical Assistant	
6	Senior Dispensers	
14	Dispensers, Grade I	
1	Surgical Assistant	
44	Dispensers, Grade II	
12	Senior Staff Nurses	
22	Staff Nurses, Grade I	
20	Staff Nurses, Grade II	
6	Staff Midwives, Grade II	
1	Supervisor of Village Midwives	
401	Nurses and Midwives, Student Nurses and Student Midwives	
30	Infectious Diseases Nurses and Probationer Infectious Diseases Nurses	
2	Welfare Assistants	
2	Occupational Therapy Assistants	
1	Chief Attendant, Mental Hospital	
1	Psychiatric Welfare Worker	
20	Senior Female Attendants and Female Attendants	

- 1 Keeper, Mental Hospital
- 40 Senior Attendants and Attendants
- 13 Sewing Maids
- 1 Linen Store Supervisor
- 1 Laundry Supervisor
- 2 Dental Mechanics
- 4 Dental Attendants

Health Branch

- 1 Senior Medical Officer (Health)
- 2 Medical Officers (Health)
- 1 Medical Entomologist
- 4 Chief Health Superintendents
- 10 Health Superintendents
- 8 Health Superintendents-in-Training
- 4 Health Inspectors, Grade I
- 47 Health Inspectors, Grade II and III
- 38 Health Inspectors-in-Training
- 2 Medical Entomological Assistants
- 1 Senior Health Visitor
- 1 Health Visitor, Grade I
- 3 Health Visitors, Grade II
- 9 Health Visitors, Grade III
- 2 Registrars of Births and Deaths
- 1 Transport Foreman
- 3 Senior Drivers
- 43 Motor Drivers
- 1 Chief Stoker
- 1 Stoker
- 2 Carpenters
- 8 Artisans and Mechanics
- 1 Motor Mechanic
- 78 Mosquito and Larvae Spotters

Laboratory

- 1 Senior Pathologist
- 1 Pathologist
- 2 Laboratory Superintendents
- 1 Laboratory Assistant, Grade I
- 3 Laboratory Assistants, Grade II
- 5 Laboratory Assistants, Grade III
- 5 Laboratory Assistants-in-Training

Control of Endemic Diseases

- 1 Medical Officer-in-charge
- 2 Medical Officers
- 4 Second and Third Grade Clerks

- 1 Store Issuer
- 3 Dispensers, Grade II
- 2 Senior Attendants, Class I
- 15 Senior Attendants, Class II
- 75 Attendants and Learners
- 8 Motor Drivers
- 6 Special Constables

Number of Non-Government Doctors on 31.12.1956

<i>Mining</i>	<i>Mission</i>	<i>Military</i>	<i>Private</i>
3	8	4	11

Figures for Nurses in Mission, Companies, etc., not available.

Expenditure on Public Health

Central Government Estimated Expenditure	£360,366
Financial Statement for Local Government	not available

Government Hospital Beds

<i>Name and Location of hospital</i>	<i>General</i>	<i>Obstet- rical</i>	<i>Tuber- culosis</i>	<i>Infec- tious</i>	<i>Mental</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
<i>(a) Colony</i>						
Connaught . . .	173	—	—	2	—	+ 40 Cots
Connaught Annex . . .	20	—	—	—	—	+ 3 „
Hill Station . . .	34	—	—	—	—	+ 2 „
P.C.H. (Maternity) . . .	—	63	—	—	—	+ 41 „
Murray Town . . .	—	—	—	60	—	
Lakka . . .	—	—	50	16	—	
Kissy Mental . . .	—	—	—	—	112	
King George V Memorial Home . . .	64	—	—	10*	—	} for the aged and indigent
Female Infirmary . . .	32	—	—	—	—	
<i>(b) Protectorate</i>						
Bo . . .	78	13	13	42	—	+ 17 Cots
Bo Annexe . . .	6	—	—	—	—	
Bonthe . . .	29	6	—	7	—	+ 4 Cots
Moyamba . . .	19	3	—	10	—	+ 1 „
Pujehun . . .	22	—	—	—	—	+ 2 Cots
Kailahun . . .	27	—	—	—	—	+ 4 „
Makeni . . .	23	5	—	—	—	+ 2 „
Port Loko . . .	22	—	—	—	—	+ 4 „
Kabala . . .	39	1	—	—	—	+ 4 „
Lungi . . .	12†	—	—	—	—	
Kenema . . .	32	—	—	—	—	
Magburaka . . .	36	14	3	3	—	+ 10 Cots
	668	105	66	150	112	+ 134 Cots

* For Leprosy

† The twelve beds in this Institution are reserved for emergency and in the event of an accident to aircraft.

List of Dispensaries and Health Centres

<i>Area</i>		<i>Place</i>	<i>Type of Unit</i>
<i>Colony</i>		<i>Regent</i>	<i>Dispensary</i>
"		Kent	"
"		York	"
"		Waterloo	"
"		Songo	Lock-up
"		Hastings	Dispensary
"		Newton	Lock-up
"		Kissy	Dispensary
"		Wellington	Lock-up
"		Bananas	"
"		Hamilton	"
"		Goderich	"
"		Russell	"
<i>South-Western Province</i>		Bauya	Dispensary
"	"	Mabang	"
"	"	Mano	Health Centre
"	"	Koribunda	" "
"	"	Sembahun	" "
"	"	Sulima	Dispensary
"	"	Sumbuya	Health Centre
"	"	Gbap	Dispensary
"	"	York Island	"
"	"	Zimi	Health Centre
"	"	Madina	" "
"	"	Shenge	" "
<i>South-Eastern Province</i>		Blama	Dispensary
"	"	Pendembu	Health Centre
"	"	Daru	" "
"	"	Koidu	Dispensary (up to 30/9/57)
"	"	Kaiyima	Health Centre
<i>Northern Province</i>		Yonnibana	Health Centre
"	"	Kambia	" "
"	"	Batkanu	Dispensary
"	"	Lunsar	Health Centre
"	"	Falaba	" "
"	"	Yele	" "
"	"	Numea	" "
"	"	Gbinti	" "
"	"	Bumbuna	" "
"	"	Makali	" "
"	"	Kychom	" "

NAME AND MISSION	PLACE	NUMBER AND CATEGORY OF BEDS				REMARKS
		General	Obste- trical	Tuber- culosis	Infec- tious	Mental
	MISSION HOSPITALS					
American Wesleyan . . . Brethren in Christ	Kamakwie	36	2	—	1	—
	Rotifunk	26	10	—	—	—
	Tiama	—	12	—	—	—
Methodist . . .	Segbwema	70	25	11	6	—
Roman Catholic . . .	Serabu	43	2	—	—	—
United Brethren American . . .	Mattru Jong	10	3	—	—	—
	MISSION DISPENSARIES (Not under the care of a Resident Medical Officer)					
American Wesleyan . . .	Kukunu via Rokupr	2	1	—	—	—
	Bendumbu via Makeni	—	1	—	—	—
	Massumbo via Makeni	—	—	—	—	—
	Kamabia via Makeni	—	—	—	—	—
	Bafodia via Kabala	—	—	—	—	—
United Brethren American . . .	Gbangbaia (visited monthly)	—	—	—	—	—
Missionary Church Association . . .	Yifin (Niemi Chiefdom)	7	—	—	—	—
	Sambaia Bendugu	—	—	—	—	—
Methodist . . .	Mayoso	—	2	—	—	—
	Bunumbu	4	—	—	—	—
	Jojoima	2	—	—	—	—
	Jaiama	—	4	—	—	—
	MINING HOSPITALS					
	Yengema	35	8	2	10	—
Sierra Leone Selection Trust . . .	Marampa	30	4	—	6	—
Sierra Leone Development Company	MINING DISPENSARY (Not under the care of a Resident Medical Officer)					
	Pepel	—	—	—	—	—
	TOTAL	265	74	13	23	—
						+ 24 Cots
						+ 8 Cots
						+ 2 Cots
						+ 2 Cots
						+ 6 Cots
						+ 3 Cots
						+ 3 Cots

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING

Control of design and execution of buildings in the major towns continued to have a beneficial influence, and the general standard of building is improving, though the minor building contractors are generally lacking in experience.

The final details for the provision of a low cost housing scheme on the outskirts of Freetown were completed and the Public Works Department will start work by direct labour early in 1958.

Plans for new Senior Service blocks of flats in Freetown were approved and building by contract was started towards the end of the year. Twelve Senior Service houses were also started by contract in Freetown.

The Public Works Department is continuing to investigate the possibility of using new types of steel roof trusses and other modifications to increase the speed of building while reducing the cost.

SOCIAL WELFARE

Staff Training

Five members of staff were awarded Fellowships and scholarships to study abroad during the year. Two received Unesco Fellowships in Fundamental Education, which made it possible for them to go to India, Ceylon and Liberia, where they studied and observed for six months modern methods in fundamental education. A senior female officer was the recipient of Fulbright and Smith-Mundt Grants to study Home Economics at Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa, U.S.A. The Acting Headmaster of the Approved School, Wellington, and a Probation Officer are now studying in the United Kingdom on departmental scholarships.

Two local training courses for District Council workers were held during the year. Those who successfully completed them are now serving their respective District Councils as Community Development Workers.

Training Centre

Work was begun on the first of two blocks of the Social Development Training Centre at Bo. These two buildings will provide three classrooms and an office and quarters for a staff of two. The provision of a suitable training centre will offer opportunity for training in the various aspects of community development and allow for experimental projects to be carried out as well.

Mass Education—Literacy Campaign

The first Mass Education Mobile Cinema Unit in the department made its appearance during the year. This unit consists of a Literacy Instructor, Home Demonstrator, Midwife and a Driver/Operator. The Unit covered the Kenema, Kono Tonkolili and Bombali Districts during the year. The unit's tours are designed to interest and

stimulate communities to better ways of living through voluntary participation and also to discover new fields for expansion.

The Protectorate Literature Bureau continues to provide useful vernacular literature for new literates.

The range of material produced has also been enlarged to include topics of general interest, including everyday living and development. The opening of a branch of the C.M.S. Bookshop at Bo, and the visit of the C.M.S. Book Van to chiefdoms in the Provinces have been of great value in the fight against illiteracy.

Youth Organisation

117 youth groups took part in the department's programme for youths during the year. A group of 6 Boy Scouts, 4 Scouters, 2 Girl Guides and 1 Guider represented Sierra Leone at the Centennial World Jamboree at Sutton Park, Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire, England. A fitting climax to the activities of Commonwealth Youth Week was a Sunday service at St. George's Cathedral, Freetown. His Excellency the Governor and Lady Dorman attended. The Queen's message was read by His Excellency.

Juvenile Delinquency and Probation

Juvenile Courts dealt with 544 delinquents. The Bo Remand Home had its first full year of service, which has resulted in an increased awareness throughout the Protectorate of the advantages of modern methods of dealing with juvenile delinquents.

The Approved School, Wellington, completed its eleventh year. 527 boys have been admitted since its establishment and 58 were admitted in 1957. Electric lighting was installed during the year, and has not only improved the amenities of the school but has proved a useful security measure against both absconding and intruding. Twelve boys of good behaviour were allowed home leave towards the end of the year and parents and guardians have expressed appreciation of the obvious change which they noticed in the general behaviour of their boys.

Community Development

Social development work was extended into the Bombali, Bonthe and Tonkolili Districts, and continued in the Bo, Moyamba, Kenema, Pujehun and Port Loko Districts. The nature of the work done in each area was in response to the demand and the needs of the local people. In some cases interest and participation were aroused with the aid of Mass Education Mobile Unit through demonstrations and other field operations.

In Tonkolili District there was general improvement in the programmes designed to better home standards. Education in child welfare and maternity care was carried out in co-operation with the Medical Department at Magburaka.

In Bombali District four District Council Community Development workers were appointed. They were successful in organising and conducting handicraft classes for women at temporary Social Development Centres. Further exploratory work was undertaken.

In Kenema District three workers were engaged during the year, while six others received training. The activities within the District included the construction of two feeder roads, covering a distance of $8\frac{1}{2}$ miles, the construction of 48 pit latrines and 17 compost fences for depositing refuse, the clearing of pools and streams to improve water supplies, and repairs to wooden bridges. The response to Community Development activities has been very encouraging in this District and the members of the District Council co-operated well with the Department.

In Bonthe District four chiefdoms were covered. 31 Farm and Home Improvement Associations were formed, 6 feeder roads constructed and at present there are 3 Women's Associations. 13 of the Farm and Home Improvement Associations raised an average sum of £14 each for projects such as nut-cracking machines and Consumers' Co-operatives. A new women's institute was formed in the township of Bonthe which participated in the National Women's Institutes Competition held in Bo and won many prizes.

King George VI Memorial Home

The Department took over responsibility for the King George VI Memorial Home at Kissy (a home for infirm and indigent people), which had formerly been under the control of the Medical Department, on the grounds that the inmates needed more welfare than medical care, although the latter is still the province of the Medical Department.

Chapter 8: Legislation

IN 1957, 33 Ordinances were passed by the Legislature of Sierra Leone. Of these, 8 were original Ordinances including 1 Appropriation Ordinance, and the balance of 25 were amending Ordinances.

The following are comments on the more important enactments passed.

The Alluvial Diamond Mining (Amendment) Ordinance, 1957 (No. 1 of 1957)

This Ordinance makes more detailed provision for the granting to natives of Sierra Leone or to native firms of the right to prospect for alluvial diamonds; and provides that it shall no longer be necessary to state on the purchaser's receipt the amount due from the seller to the purchaser by reference to tax for which the purchaser may be accountable in respect of the sale.

The Local Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 1957 (No. 2 of 1957)

This Ordinance amends the principal Ordinance in three respects. First, it gives permission to a native to pay his local tax direct to the Chiefdom Treasury, if he so prefers, or to a person appointed by the Minister, instead of to the Chief or Headman. Secondly, it enables the Governor in Council to declare a special rate of local tax to be paid by ratepayers in towns where Town Councils have been established. Thirdly, it extends the jurisdiction of the Magistrates' Courts to deal with all offences under the principal Ordinance.

The Fisheries Ordinance, 1957 (No. 16 of 1957)

Early in 1957, Government received ample evidence that foreign motor fishing vessels had been trawling in Sierra Leone waters and that local fishermen were meeting unfair competition. For this reason and to protect the interests of the fishing industry of Sierra Leone, it was considered desirable that Government should possess some powers to prevent such a situation, and the purpose of this Ordinance is to provide that no motor fishing vessel may be operated in Sierra Leone waters without a licence.

The Ordinance is adapted and modified from the Gold Coast (now Ghana) Fisheries Ordinance (Cap. 165).

The Widows and Orphans (African Officers) Pensions Ordinance, 1957 (No. 18 of 1957)

The object of this Ordinance is to provide for a Scheme for pensions for the widows and orphans of African Officers.

The Public Offices (Ministerial Secretaries) Ordinance, 1957 (No. 19 of 1957)

It was desired that Elected Members of the House of Representatives should be appointed as Ministerial Secretaries to assist Ministers in conducting the business of their Ministries both inside and outside the House. The Sierra Leone (House of Representatives) Order in Council, 1956 provides, *inter alia*, that an Elected Member of the House of Representatives may not hold a public office; but it may be declared by law that an office shall not be a public office for all or any of the purposes of the said Order. In order that these Ministerial Secretaries might be paid salaries and still continue to sit in the House as Elected Members, it was necessary to enact an Ordinance in pursuance of the provisions of section 1(4) (a) of the said Order, and this Ordinance was accordingly enacted.

The Customs (Amendment) Ordinance, 1957 (No. 27 of 1957)

The object of this short Ordinance is to permit the importation of commercial samples and advertising material for a period of six months without payment of customs duty. These amendments will give effect to an International Convention relating to such matters.

The District Councils (Amendment) Ordinance, 1957 (No. 32 of 1957)

The main purpose of this Ordinance is to give effect to certain recommendations contained in the Cox Report relating to disturbances in the Protectorate in 1956, namely (a) the removal of District Commissioners from membership of District Councils; (b) the provision of machinery for keeping the affairs of District Councils under supervision; (c) the transfer of functions from District Councils if there is default in carrying them out; and (d) the giving to the Auditor of adequate powers to enable him to make proper enquiries regarding District Council finances and also to surcharge.

The Alluvial Diamond Mining (Amendment) (No. 3) Ordinance, 1957 (No. 33 of 1957)

This Ordinance amends the principal Ordinance in four main particulars. First, it repeals and replaces section 5(b) so as to provide that in future, all Alluvial Diamond Mining Licences shall expire at the end of the year in which they are granted instead of half-yearly as at present. Secondly, it enables a Licensed Alluvial Diamond Dealer to buy and sell alluvial diamonds to and from another dealer. At present, he may only sell to a Licensed Alluvial Diamond Exporter. Thirdly, it enables the Court to impose a heavier sentence in cases where a person in unlawful possession of diamonds is armed with any firearm with intent to resist lawful arrest.

Fourthly, it provides that a Licensed Alluvial Diamond Dealer who is convicted of a felony under the principal Ordinance shall be disqualified from holding a licence for seven years.

Chapter 9 : Justice, Police and Prisons

JUSTICE

THE Courts of Sierra Leone are the Supreme Court of Sierra Leone, the Magistrates' Courts in the Colony and Protectorate, and the Native Courts of the Protectorate. Statistics of the Courts' work in 1957 are given on page 84.

Supreme Court

The Supreme Court has jurisdiction throughout the Colony and Protectorate and exercises all the jurisdiction, powers and authorities which are vested in or capable of being exercised by the High Court of Justice in England, with the exception of the jurisdiction and powers of the High Court of Admiralty. Its jurisdiction, however, does not extend to cases arising exclusively between natives,

- (i) which involve title to land situate within the Protectorate (subject to the reservations mentioned below), or
- (ii) which relate to marriage or divorce by native customary law or any matrimonial claim founded on such a marriage, or

- (iii) where the claim or matter in dispute does not exceed £100 in value or
- (iv) which relate to the administration of estates of deceased persons who are natives where such estates lie within the jurisdiction of any Native Court.

Such cases are triable only in Native Courts.

The practice or procedure of the Supreme Court in civil matters is regulated by Rules of Court made under the provisions of the Courts Ordinance, Cap. 50 and in criminal matters by the Criminal Procedure Ordinance, Cap. 52.

As regards substantive law, the Common Law of England, the doctrines of Equity and English Statutory Law of general application in England on the 1st January, 1880, are in force in Sierra Leone.

In addition, certain English statutes after 1880, affecting both the criminal law and civil law, have been brought into force from time to time by Ordinance; principal among them may be mentioned the following:

- (1) The Conveyancing and Law of Property Act, 1880 (in part)
- (2) The Settled Land Act, 1882 (in part)
- (3) The Conveyancing Act, 1882 (in part)
- (4) The Settled Land Act, 1884 (in part)
- (5) The Trustees Act, 1883
- (6) The Settled Land Act, 1889
- (7) The Trustee Appointment Act, 1890
- (8) The Settled Land Act, 1890 (in part)
- (9) The Conveyancing and Law of Property Act, 1892
- (10) The Voluntary Conveyances Act, 1893
- (11) The Trustee Act, 1893 (in part)
- (12) The Trustee Act, 1893, Amendment Act, 1894, (the whole except section 2)
- (13) The Judicial Trustees Act, 1896
- (14) The Conveyancing Act, 1911 (in part)
- (15) The Perjury Act, 1911
- (16) The Forgery Act, 1913 (in part)
- (17) The Larceny Act, 1916
- (18) The Bill of Sale Act, 1878
- (19) The Sale of Goods Act, 1893
- (20) The Criminal Justice Act, 1925.

Any person charged with a criminal offence in the Colony is tried by the Court with a jury consisting of 12 men, unless:

- (i) such person shall have elected to be tried by the Court with the aid of assessors; or
- (ii) the Court shall have ordered such person to be tried with the aid of assessors in accordance with the Jurors and Assessors Ordinance, Cap. 114.

In the Protectorate, the Supreme Court is assisted by two or more assessors, whose opinions are given orally. The decision of the

Court, however, is vested exclusively in the Judge. In civil cases trial is by the Judge alone. He may, however, appoint assessors to assist him in any case where native customary law is involved, but the decision is vested exclusively in the Presiding Judge.

Magistrates' Courts

The jurisdiction of the Magistrates' Courts in civil cases is as follows:

- (a) In the Colony, any cause or matter which may lawfully be brought before it, and
- (b) in the Protectorate, any cause or matter other than an action founded upon libel and slander where such cause or matter is between:
 - (i) non-native or
 - (ii) a native and non-native or
 - (iii) a native and the holder of a trading licence, although a native and arises out of the latter's trading, wherein the claim, debt or matter in dispute does not exceed £100 in value, whether on balance of account or otherwise.

The criminal jurisdiction of the Magistrates' Courts is limited to cases triable summarily and its procedure in this jurisdiction is governed by the Criminal Procedure Ordinance, Cap. 52. In addition, magistrates hold preliminary investigations to determine whether a person charged with an offence triable by the Supreme Court shall or shall not be committed for trial.

Native Courts

The Native Courts of the Protectorate have jurisdiction in all matters between natives inter se not triable by any other court. The law and practice of such courts are according to native law and customs. In chiefdoms which have become Native Administrations the Native Court is presided over by the Paramount Chief and three or four members of the Tribal Authority, sitting in rotation. In other chiefdoms, the constitution is not so rigid. The former are also Courts of Record and submit monthly returns to the District Commissioner, whereas the latter are not so organised.

The Native Courts have jurisdiction in all civil cases arising exclusively between natives, other than a case involving a question of title to land between two or more Paramount Chiefs, or of a debt claimed by the holder of a trading licence. If the amount in dispute, however, is over £100, the case may be taken to the Supreme Court. In cases of land disputes, the Native Courts have power to hear and determine claims except where the dispute concerns two chiefdoms. In such cases, or where the case is of unusual importance, the District Commissioner has power to enquire and decide.

Appeals

There is an automatic appeal from the Native Court to the District Commissioner where sentences of imprisonment exceeding

fourteen days are imposed by a Native Court. The District Commissioner, on the application of any party or of his own motion, also has a power of review of all cases originating in a Native Court. In Bonthe District three Group Native Appeal Courts have been set up under the Native Courts Ordinance, and have proved a success. The extension of this appeal system to the remainder of the Protectorate is being considered.

Appeals from the Magistrates' Courts go to the Supreme Court, and from the Supreme Court to the West African Court of Appeal. This court sits in Sierra Leone in March and October and at any other time the President may direct. From the West African Court of Appeal, an appeal lies in appropriate cases to Her Majesty's Privy Council in England.

Types of Case

The commonest types of litigation and offence in the respective Courts are:

Supreme Courts

- (a) Amount due, resulting from breach of contractual obligation
- (b) Larceny

Magistrates' Courts

- (a) Debts including arrears of rent and damages for assault and wounding
- (b) Larceny, burglary and housebreaking, assault and wounding.

Native Courts

- (a) Bush disputes
- (b) Cases involving marriage customary laws.

Particulars of work done in the Court of Appeal and the Supreme and Magistrates' Courts during the year are shown in the tables on p. 84.

Probation and Juveniles

Under the Probation of Offenders Ordinance No. 19 of 1950, first offenders may be put on probation under the supervision of a Probation Officer. Immediately after conviction, a report as to character, antecedents, etc., of the offender is submitted to the Court by the Probation Officer; the Court may then make a probation order. Juvenile offenders are sent to the Approved School for corrective training.

Statistics of Court Work, 1957

Court	No. of Criminal Cases Heard	Convictions		Discharges		Put on Proba- tion	No. of Civil Cases Heard
		Juve- niles	Adults	Juve- niles	Adults		
West African Court of Appeal	10	—	7	—	3	—	23
Supreme Court	525	2	414	8	101	—	403
Magistrates' Courts, Pro- tectorate	4,879	118	3,271	23	1,484	36	749
Magistrates' Courts, Colony	4,055	2,251	3,544	40	1,106	45	4,320

(a) No. of cases in which fines imposed—2,807

(b) Total Fines—£21,281 6s. 7d.

(c) No. of cases of fines as an alternative to imprisonment—3,438

(d) No. of cases in which fines paid—2,696

(e) No. of cases in which fines not paid—804

(f) No. of cases in which accused bound over—156

(g) Other types of punishment—14

N.B.—Particulars in respect of Magistrates' Courts Headquarters Judicial District, Kono, Bonthe and Pujehun were not available when this table was compiled.

Commonest types of Offence and Litigation

These were storebreaking and larceny, wounding, motor traffic offences, larceny, assault, debts, actions for possession, damages, etc.

POLICE

The establishment of the Sierra Leone Police Force comprises 46 Superior Police Officers, 68 Chief Inspectors, Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors, and 1,582 Non-Commissioned Officers and men. This establishment includes a band which consists of a Director of Music (Superintendent of Police) and 31 Bandsmen.

The Sierra Leone Police Force was responsible for the prevention and detection of crime and the maintenance of public order throughout Sierra Leone during the year.

For the purpose of police administration the country is divided into five Police Divisions, these in turn being sub-divided into Police Districts. In Freetown there is, in addition to the Colony Division, a Harbour and Traffic Branch.

A radio network connects Police Headquarters with all the main Divisional Headquarters at Bo, Makeni, Kenema and Yengema, and

is now extended to District Headquarters at Moyamba, Kailahun, Port Loko, Lunsar, Kambia and Magburaka. In addition a local H.F. network was set up in the Kono Diamond area linking Kayima, and Yomandu with Divisional Headquarters at Yengema. This network is mobile and stations could be varied as required.

A V.H.F. system of patrol cars linked with the Information Room operates in Freetown.

The work of the Information Room continued satisfactorily during the year. The following calls were received and dealt with:

<i>FROM POLICE</i>		<i>FROM PUBLIC</i>	
<i>Crime</i>	<i>Accidents</i>	<i>Crime</i>	<i>Accidents</i>
358	140	672	131

Arrests made as a result of calls to the Information Room numbered 375.

The Police Training School maintained a steady output of recruits during the year. 420 recruits completed their training and were drafted into executive formations. Life Saving and First Aid Courses were also held.

The number of road accidents reached an alarming total considerably above that for 1956. The low standard of driving was probably the greatest contributory factor to the increase.

During the year 1,350 persons were arrested for contravening the Alluvial Diamond Mining Ordinance, and of these 962 were convicted. 20,962 diamonds were recovered weighing 12,408.39 carats and valued at £126,270.

In August, 1957, a large force of illegal diamond miners moved into the S.L.S.T. protected area and started mining on a widespread scale.

Police units supported by the Army moved into the area and a prolonged operation lasting some 9 weeks finally removed 31,000 native strangers out of the leased area.

Immigration and Passport Control

The number of passports and other travel documents issued during 1957 compared with 1956 was as follows:

	1956	1957
Passports	608	889
Travel Certificates	930	1,639
Seamen's Certificates of Nationality and Identity	97	229
Seamen's Identity	24	15
Emergency Certificates	593	269
	<hr/> 2,252	<hr/> 3,041

Two hundred and twenty passports and two hundred and fifty travel certificates were renewed. One hundred and seventeen full visas and fourteen transit visas were issued. Revenue derived from Immigration and Passport Control amounted to £1,510 6s. 6d.

The following persons, excluding West Africans, entered and left Sierra Leone by Sea, Land and Air:

	1956		1957	
	Entered	Left	Entered	Left
British Subjects	2,877	2,525	2,778	2,683
Americans	167	142	277	277
Austrians	3	1	2	4
Belgians	2	2	4	5
Brazillians	3	1	2	2
Czechs	2	6	6	5
Danish	26	23	21	27
Dutch	38	43	42	40
French	194	184	201	199
Finnish	2	1	3	3
Germans	31	29	37	35
Greeks	6	10	19	19
Hungarian	—	1	2	2
Indians	86	80	67	68
Italians	58	41	108	71
Japanese	1	1	9	9
Jordanian	2	2	3	3
Lebanese and Syrians	377	381	492	487
Liberians	157	158	140	206
Norwegians	6	11	6	7
Polish	7	4	4	4
Portuguese	—	—	4	4
Spanish	6	11	2	2
Sudanese	1	1	1	1
Swedish	16	11	8	9
Swiss	42	38	36	49
Turkish	—	—	4	3
	4,110	3,707	4,278	4,224

The total numbers of persons, including West Africans, who entered and left Sierra Leone during 1956 and 1957 were:

	1956		1957	
	Entered	Left	Entered	Left
By Land	1,276	1,385	1,736	1,091
By Sea	5,654	3,881	3,843	3,355
By Air	4,184	4,118	5,236	5,209
TOTALS	11,114	9,384	10,815	9,655

During the year eighteen stowaways were convicted and one Sierra Leonean was repatriated.

Aliens Registration

The total number of aliens registered during the year was three hundred and sixteen, an increase of one hundred and thirty one on the preceding year. Their nationalities were:

Americans	.	.	.	.	.	.	30
Belgians	.	.	.	.	.	.	3
Danish	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
Dutch	.	.	.	.	.	.	3
French	.	.	.	.	.	.	20
Germans	.	.	.	.	.	.	3
Greeks	.	.	.	.	.	.	2
Italians	.	.	.	.	.	.	46
Lebanese and Syrians	.	.	.	.	.	.	191
Spanish	.	.	.	.	.	.	5
Swiss	.	.	.	.	.	.	12
TOTAL	.	.	.	.	.	.	<hr/>316 <hr/>

	Total Cases Reported	Cases referred to Native Authority	Total True Cases	No. of Cases Prosecuted	No. of Cases Convicted	No. of Cases awaiting Trial	No. of Adults Prosecuted		No. of Adults Convicted		No. of Juveniles Prosecuted		No. of Juveniles Convicted		Value of Property Stolen		Value of Property Recovered			
							M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Offences against Person																				
1. Murder	47	—	41	22	6	13	31	1	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Attempted Murder	3	—	3	1	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Manslaughter (other than M.T.)	19	—	16	15	3	7	15	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Wounding and Serious Assault	535	30	465	400	236	83	411	15	245	8	30	1	28	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Common Assault	836	133	629	566	461	33	575	57	432	57	40	3	29	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Child Stealing	2	—	2	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Rape	110	13	72	58	15	32	60	—	12	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Indecent Assault	81	4	64	49	11	19	40	1	6	1	12	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Other Offences against Morality	61	—	49	41	23	4	46	7	33	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10. Other Offences not included above	332	12	312	297	251	12	330	42	264	29	8	1	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	2,026	192	1,653	1,451	1,007	205	1,510	123	1,005	101	94	5	68	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Offences against Property																				
11. Robbery with Violence	65	7	45	26	9	11	42	2	13	—	—	—	—	—	3,236	7	1	60	8	10
12. Burglary	303	4	289	41	5	20	48	1	10	—	—	—	—	—	16,631	10	0	835	15	2
13. Store, Office, etc., breaking by night	208	6	197	43	21	15	57	4	33	—	—	—	—	—	15,780	5	5	1,176	17	0
14. Housebreaking	203	8	193	33	16	8	29	—	11	—	6	—	3	—	4,776	7	11	246	0	1
15. Larceny—Dwelling—Day	403	19	355	77	41	12	71	1	36	1	15	—	9	—	31,768	13	10	506	15	10
16. Larceny—Dwelling—Night	484	14	450	40	24	8	51	—	28	—	3	—	—	—	19,985	13	1	776	1	6
17. Receiving Stolen Property	59	3	56	38	26	7	38	1	23	1	2	—	1	—	547	6	7	190	1	0
18. Unlawful Possession	201	3	175	162	131	10	174	3	131	3	2	—	2	—	39	15	0	37	17	10
19. Forgery and Uttering	69	1	64	45	8	22	48	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	1,740	15	0	155	6	0
20. Larceny (a) £50 and over	445	52	347	104	48	27	130	8	51	2	14	5	10	—	139,966	8	2	10,175	12	5
21. Larceny (b) under £50	4,179	230	3,866	1,810	1,278	135	1,818	56	1,256	31	256	28	208	23	61,653	19	5	6,235	16	3
22. Larceny—Person	138	8	120	87	56	10	102	10	52	—	6	—	4	—	3,574	19	9	340	10	10
23. Arson and attempted Arson	74	2	58	33	8	19	31	2	7	—	—	—	—	—	90	0	0	90	0	0
24. Other Offences not included above	1,265	117	1,022	679	402	102	715	23	398	10	27	—	3	—	26,284	7	0	1,207	11	3
Total	8,096	474	7,237	3,218	2,073	406	3,354	111	2,061	48	331	33	240	23	—	—	—	—	—	—
25. Offences against Public Order																				
26. Other Offences	964	32	911	849	754	54	1,463	125	1,089	113	46	12	33	9	—	—	—	23,620	1	0
	2,307	22	2,280	2,174	1,808	190	3,477	253	2,677	61	173	24	138	22	—	—	—	—	—	—
GRAND TOTAL	13,393	720	12,081	7,692	5,642	855	9,804	612	6,832	323	644	74	479	59	326,076	8	3	45,654	15	10

Note: (i) Prosecuted means cases and persons discharged, acquitted, convicted or *nolle prosequi* entered.

PRISONS

Prisons in Sierra Leone are administered by the Director of Prisons, who has his Headquarters in Freetown, assisted by an establishment of five superior officers, five junior officers, 362 subordinate ranks, six matrons and eighteen industrial staff. In addition there are fifteen clerical assistants, two store assistants, three teachers, an Agent for Discharged Prisoners and two Cadets in training.

The various establishments include a central prison in Freetown; a camp for first offenders at Masanki, three district prisons at Moyamba, Kenema and Pujehun, and nine local prisons in the Provinces. All prisons in the Provinces, with the exception of the Camp at Masanki, are supervised by District Commissioners. It is hoped that the department will be in position to take over the supervision of these prisons within the next year.

The influx of native foreigners into the diamond areas in the Protectorate necessitated the closing of the Prisons Officers' Training School and the trainees, together with a number of trained warders, were posted to Sefadu and Kenema prisons during the period of emergency. During this period the department engaged seventy temporary warders.

The total number of committals for the year was 15,565 as compared with 13,305 in 1956.

The construction of the Central Prison at Magburaka, which began early in November, 1956, is progressing satisfactorily and it is expected that it will be completed by the end of 1958.

Overcrowding as a result of the arrests in the diamond areas made necessary the building of an extension to the Sefadu local prison and the construction of a temporary camp at Kenema. The Police station cells at Tumbodu and Tankoro in the Kono area and the Police barracks at Kissy were taken over later in the year and gazetted as temporary prisons.

Despite the gross overcrowding in the prisons the discipline of the prisoners has been good and there were no incidents of a serious nature. Due to the overcrowding all members of the staff, without exception, have had to work long and arduous hours.

The health of the prisoners generally has been good.

There are three teachers on the permanent establishment for the Training School and prisons in the Colony, and two, seconded from the Education Department, at Masanki. During the year 117 prisoners attended classes, 45 of whom attained various recognised standards of education before expiration of sentence. Classes in the Mendi language were started by the Rev. H. Cook of the Methodist Mission; these proved successful and popular.

Owing to overcrowding it was difficult to keep all the short sentence prisoners usefully employed, but prisoners serving long sentences who were physically and mentally fit continued to be taught one of the many trades in the workshops.

No Borstal system exists in the territory but every reasonable effort is made to segregate the age group concerned. The number of youths between the ages of 17 to 21 years admitted during the year was 289, of whom 213 would have been suitable for Borstal training.

The Approved School for boys under 17 years of age is not a responsibility of the Prison Service and is administered by the Social Welfare Department.

The Prison Department has on its establishment a Discharged Prisoners' Agent. The title is a misnomer, for this officer not only looks after the interest of ex-prisoners, but is instrumental in collecting a large number of fines, arranging bail and contacting families of offenders. In conjunction with the Labour Department, Social Welfare Department and local employers, he does a great deal in finding work for discharged prisoners.

The Voluntary Prisoners After-Care Association which was established five years ago still receives a small monetary grant from Government, through the Director of Prisons, to enable it to assist discharged prisoners. The grant is made with the object of encouraging the good work this Association is doing; local subscriptions have however been very few and little interest has been shown by the general public in this important field.

Chapter 10 : Public Utilities

ELECTRICITY

ALL public electricity supplies in Sierra Leone are administered by the Government Electricity Department, which is responsible for the operation, maintenance and development of existing systems as well as the planning and erection of new supply systems. The Freetown system is the largest in Sierra Leone; it comprises both steam and diesel stations and the total units generated in 1957 were 14,957,460, representing an increase of 20% over 1956, with a maximum sustained load of 3,500 kW. The total installed generating capacity is 5,000 kW and further generating units of 1,000 kW (diesel) and 2,000 kW (steam) are being installed. The first section of Stage II of the Colony Rural Scheme which is operated at 11,000 volts is almost completed, and the Wellington Village supply was formally opened by the Minister of Works and Housing on the 18th of December, 1957. On the western side of the city, the supply has been extended past Gilbey Farm. Construction work on the 3.3 kV overhead line between Blackhall Road and Guma Valley has begun.

In the Provinces, electricity undertakings at Bo, Kenema, Lungi, Magburaka, Rokupr, N'jala, Bonthe and Port Loko are now on a 24 hourly supply and have operated successfully during the year. The 3.3 kV systems in Bo, Magburaka and Kenema have been further extended to meet the demand of new consumers, and to improve the voltage regulation of the existing supply.

The total generating capacity in the Provincial stations at the end of the year was 2,088 kW. It is hoped as funds permit to reconstruct and enlarge the Bo station and to run a H.T. submarine cable from Freetown to Lungi and its neighbourhood. Construction of new power stations has already begun at Makeni, Moyamba and Kambia and it is hoped that all three undertakings will be commissioned in 1958.

The total units generated in 1957 were 2,762,300; and additional plant of a total capacity of 510 kW was installed.

Voltages are standardised throughout these systems and are:

Low Tension—400 Volts 3-Phase—230 Volts single Phase.

High Tension—3,300 Volts, 11,000 Volts (proposed).

High Tension—3,300 Volts, 11,000 Volts (proposed) 33,000 Volts three phase in 1958.

All supplies are at 50 cycles per second.

Tariffs briefly are:

Freetown—Domestic 10d. to 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per unit according to consumption. Power 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per unit plus fixed charge per kVA installed.

There are also rates for general commercial use and bulk rates.

Special contract rates can be arranged.

Protectorate—Tariffs in the Provinces are on the same bases but are slightly higher.

WATER SUPPLIES

The construction of the power house and treatment plant of the Bo Water Supply was well in hand, and the service reservoir almost completed. Work continued on the distribution reticulation system.

Towards the end of the year it was found possible to fill the post of Water Engineer and to re-start work on the investigation and design of various small schemes. Prior to this, Messrs. Howard Humphreys & Sons had been invited to report on water supplies for Makeni and Moyamba.

Chapter 11 : Communications

SHIPPING

Freetown

FREETOWN, the capital and major port, has anchorage room for 240 ships of unrestricted draft and berths for three ships alongside the Queen Elizabeth II Quay, which is 1,250 feet long with a depth of 32 feet of water at Mean Low Water Ordinary Springs. Oil bunkering is available at the quay, and ships also berth alongside Kissy Oil Jetty for oil bunkers or to discharge various types of fuel into the Oil Storage Company's tanks. Approximately 1,000 ships a year call at Freetown.

Lighters are available for loading and discharging whilst at anchor and all export chrome ore cargoes are loaded from lighters.

The entrance to the harbour is marked by the Fairway Buoy and Cape Sierra Leone Lighthouse, and a Radio D/F Beacon transmits to all shipping from the signal station on Aberdeen Hill. The Cable and Wireless Company have a branch at Freetown.

The Railway Department is responsible for the administration of the Customs Area of the Port of Freetown embracing the deep water quay for ocean going vessels, lighter berths, transit sheds and the provision and maintenance of crane facilities. The traffic handled over the wharves amounted to 422,579 tons compared with 392,455 tons in 1956. Stevedoring and shore handling operations formerly carried out by ships' agents and landing contractors became the sole responsibility of the Railway Administration as from the 1st May, 1954 when the newly formed Port Management Branch commenced operating. On 1st October, 1954, responsibility for lighterage was also undertaken.

Operating expenses were £354,133 compared with £281,145 in 1956, while receipts rose to £465,793 from £385,284 in 1956.

Other Ports

The iron ore port of Pepel is 12 miles upriver from Freetown. Vessels are berthed alongside a knuckle and the ore is loaded by means of conveyor belt.

The port of Bonthe is used as the terminus for the produce of the south and south-eastern districts of Sierra Leone. Produce is lightered down to ocean-going vessels which anchor at Yangsai Tree, eight miles below the town of Bonthe.

The Customs station at the port of Sulima, which lies in the extreme southern corner of Sierra Leone, near the frontier with Liberia, was closed in December, 1955 because of the decline in trade. This port consists of an open roadstead and the loading used to be done by surf boats. Deepwater launches and lorries now bring the produce of the Sulima area (much of it piassava) to Freetown.

Tagrin Point Jetty was built to embark and disembark air passengers using Lungi Airport. A frequent launch ferry service between Government Wharf and Tagrin is maintained throughout the year.

Main Shipping Lines

The main shipping lines calling at Freetown are Elder Dempster Lines Limited, Palm Line Limited, and the Holland West Africa Line, which between them provide services to and from the United Kingdom, the Continent and ports south to the Belgian Congo. There is an average of 30 ships a month in each direction.

Swedish, Danish and German ships in the agency of Messrs. Holmen's Limited maintain a fairly regular service of about eight ships a month to and from Continental and Scandinavian ports as well as southwards to Angola.

River Transport

Recognised launch routes, including the coastwise route from Freetown northwards to the towns on the Great and Little Scarcies Rivers, and southwards to Bonthe, total almost 500 miles. Rock bars and rapids, however, restrict the use of the upper reaches of the country's rivers, and some of the river routes included above are navigable by launches only during about three months in the year, when the rivers are in flood. Nevertheless, a considerable amount of the territory's produce is still transported by waterways and a fair number of passengers continue to travel in launches and native craft.

Locally built and privately owned launches call at all riverside villages when required. Three days a week a large number of native sailing craft, known as Bullom Boats, transport local foodstuffs and passengers to and from the Bullom Shore across Freetown Harbour.

RAILWAY

The main line of the Sierra Leone Railway runs in an easterly direction from Freetown to Pendembu a distance of $227\frac{1}{2}$ miles. A branch line from Bauya Junction $64\frac{1}{4}$ miles from Freetown runs north-east to Makeni in the Northern Province, a distance of $83\frac{3}{4}$ miles. The railway which is of 2-ft. 6-in. gauge was originally constructed as a development railway to open up trade in the hinterland. It follows a devious course throughout its length and this combined with heavy gradients and river crossings greatly contributes to its exceptionally high operating costs.

Much of the permanent way is between 40 and 50 years old and is in need of complete renewal. 120 miles of new 35 lb. and 40 lb. plain track material was ordered in 1951 and approximately 90 miles had been relayed by the end of 1957.

For all of 1957 the railway was operated entirely by steam, except for three diesel shunting engines. Plans were made during the year for the gradual replacement of steam by diesel powered engines commencing in 1958.

During 1957 the railway carried 127,282 tons of paying traffic, compared with 117,511 tons in 1956.

The ton mileage of goods traffic was 20,028,105 as compared with 18,786,567 in 1956. Goods revenue amounted to £402,544 compared with £380,077 in 1956.

The number of passenger journeys was 1,438,313 compared with 1,502,673 in 1956 and the passenger miles 43,397,858 compared with 43,574,649 in 1956.

The passenger revenue amounted to £259,133 compared with £264,551 in 1956.

Gross receipts were £1,145,890, an increase of £96,763 over the previous year. Gross expenditure including expenditure on extraordinary works amounted to £1,518,433 compared with £1,055,272

Railway and £281,145 Port in 1956. The percentage of working expenditure to gross receipts was 132.51 as against 127.38 in 1956.

A private Railway owned by the Sierra Leone Development Company, Limited, runs from Marampa to Pepel, a distance of $57\frac{1}{2}$ miles. It is of 3-ft. 6-in. gauge and carries all the iron ore mined by the Company; it is not available for use by the public.

ROADS AND VEHICLES

The following were the mileages of different types of roads maintained in Sierra Leone during 1957:

	<i>Miles</i>
First class roads maintained by the Public Works Department, including 140 miles of bitumen-surfaced roads	1,594
Roads maintained by local Government bodies	1,398
Roads owned and maintained by private companies	180

All government roads and most of the remainder are motorable throughout the year, though occasionally ferries are closed for a few days at a time because of abnormal flooding or the need for repairs.

The following was the number of vehicles licensed in Sierra Leone in 1957:

Lorries and buses	2,308
Motor cars	3,960
Motor cycles	412

The public motor buses covered 1,012,790 miles during 1957, an increase of 119,496 over the previous year, and carried 5,478,196 passengers (not including season ticket holders) as against 4,391,101 in 1956. Revenue earned by this service amounted to £93,811. Two new double deck and eleven single deck buses were put into service, and eight bus shelters were erected within the City limits.

The departmental and general service vehicles covered 649,374 miles during the year. One hundred and seventeen new vehicles were received by Government departments (including Road Transport Department, excluding the Public Works Department) and 54 vehicles were withdrawn, being unfit for further service.

Including those re-built, forty seven bodies were built at the body building workshops for Government departments. This work was additional to the body repairs carried out on many other vehicles.

Over 400 Government vehicles were maintained by the department's workshops during the year.

Of 130 accidents involving the department's vehicles during the year, 40 were considered to be the fault of the department's drivers; 18 cases are awaiting decision.

AIR

The only international customs airport within the territory is at Lungi on the northern bank of the Sierra Leone River, opposite Freetown. Access to Lungi from Freetown is by launch and bus and the airport is available for use in the daylight hours during which period air traffic control services are provided. Night facilities are available on request. Meteorological and aeronautical fixed telecommunication services are maintained continuously. Long range H.F. R/T on 8820 Kc/s is used for international aircraft.

The work on the reconstructed runway has been completed and provides for 6,500 feet length and 150 feet width to International Civil Aviation Organisation category C5. Work on the extension and reconstruction of the aircraft parking apron has begun.

A new fire station has been constructed and the fire rescue service equipped with a new heavy duty crash tender.

The new Lungi hospital which was completed and put into operation in 1957, serves the airport and staff, in addition to local inhabitants.

Aerial and ground surveys of the non-customs aerodromes in the territory were made during 1957, and work put in hand to effect the necessary improvements before the inauguration of the Government internal air service with Rapide aircraft expected in January, 1958. The aerodromes concerned are Hastings, Bo, Kenema, Daru, Port Loko and Magburaka. Maintenance continued of the Yengema and Tongo landing strips, which are used solely by the two Beaver aircraft belonging to the Sierra Leone Selection Trust and the Diamond Corporation of Sierra Leone. Aerial photographic surveys of the territory for mapping purposes were carried out at the beginning of the year and a similar survey contract was begun at the end of the year. The Aircraft and personnel involved were based temporarily at Freetown Airport.

Pilgrims' flights to Mecca were operated by Sabena using DC4 aircraft from Freetown. There were three flights each carrying 56 passengers in each direction.

Scheduled international aircraft services were operated during the year from Freetown Airport as follows:

West African Airways Corporation. D.C.3 aircraft. Lagos/Accra/Abidijan/Robertsfield/Freetown/Bathurst/Dakar, twice weekly in each direction.

Lagos/Accra/Abidijan/Robertsfield/Freetown, once weekly in each direction.

These services provided connections from Dakar to Europe and connections at Robertsfield and Accra by various airlines.

Air France. D.C.3 aircraft. Conakry/Freetown/Robertsfield and/or Monrovia, two or three times weekly in each direction.

These services connected Conakry with Super Constellations to Europe.

Hunting-Clan and Airwork "Safari". Viking aircraft. These two airlines operated alternately a weekly service between the United Kingdom and Ghana, via Tangier, Bathurst and Freetown.

Eagle Aviation Ltd. Viking aircraft.

A weekly military trooping service was operated between the United Kingdom and Ghana or Nigeria via Freetown.

The numbers of aircraft movements and air passengers and the amount of freight handled at Freetown Airport continued to show an increase. Details for the year are as follows:

(a) <i>Aircraft Movements</i>		(c) <i>Freight</i>	
Scheduled Services	1,140	Loaded	11,549 Kgs.
Non-Scheduled Services	313	Unloaded	46,570 „
Private Aircraft	792	Transit	30,209 „
R.A.F. and other Military	10		<hr/> 88,328
Test Flights, Training, Delivery and Survey Flights	141		
	<hr/> 2,396		
(b) <i>Passengers Handled on Scheduled Services</i>		(d) <i>P.O. Mail</i>	
Embarking	6,342	Loaded	11,037 Kgs.
Disembarking	6,595	Unloaded	28,459 „
Transit	5,784		<hr/> 39,496
	<hr/> 18,721		

POSTAL SERVICES

The air mail service to and from the United Kingdom continued to operate four times weekly mainly via Dakar. The regular fortnightly express mail boat service was supplemented in July, 1957 by a once monthly passenger and mail boat service to and from London. Direct air and sea mails were exchanged with British and other West African territories, U.S.A., South Africa and European Countries. Internal rail, road, river and carrier mail services were satisfactorily maintained and extended to serve new postal agencies. There were 114 post offices and postal agencies open for business at the end of the year.

A steady increase continued in all classes of business, and the cash turnover exceeded £2,000,000 for the first time. The balance due to 65,836 depositors in the Post Office Savings Bank was £1,568,543, an increase of 3,005 and £88,419 respectively during the year.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The expansion of the telephone system in Freetown and the Provinces has continued, and at the close of the year there were 1,616 direct

exchange lines and 1,200 extensions in service. Additional telegraph and telephone channels have been provided by the use of carrier equipment between Freetown and Bo. The extension of the wired telephone trunk system between Bo and Pendembu, and the installation of eleven VHF R/T links serving the more important places in the Provinces.

Equipment to provide an additional 400 lines is being installed in the Freetown Automatic Telephone Exchange and will bring its capacity to 1,500 lines.

There are, at present, 30 telephone exchanges and call offices and 60 telegraph offices throughout the country.

The Aeradio Section at Lungi Airport continued to provide full wireless telegraph and telephone facilities for aircraft and associated services.

Chapter 12 : Press, Broadcasting, Films and Government Information Services

PRESS

THE following newspapers and periodicals were published in 1957:

<i>Title</i>	<i>Frequency of Publication</i>	<i>Language</i>	<i>Address</i>
Sierra Leone Daily Mail	Daily	English	29, Rawdon Street, Freetown
Sierra Leone Daily Guardian	"	"	Oxford Street, Freetown
Evening Dispatch	"	"	22, Goderich Street, Freetown
Sierra Leone Observer	Weekly	"	3, Hospital Road, Bo
The African Standard	"	"	7, Trelawney Street, Freetown
The African Vanguard	Twice Weekly	"	5, Wellington Street, Freetown
The Advance	Weekly	"	Dambara Road, Bo
Weekly Bulletin	"	"	Public Relations Dept., Freetown
Ten-Daily News	"	"	17, Charlotte Street, Freetown
The African Crescent	"	"	P.O. Box 11, Bo
The Al-Bushra	"	"	5, Goree Street, Freetown
Seme Lokoi	Monthly	Mende	Protectorate Literature Bureau, Bo.

BROADCASTING

During the year Mr. Leslie Perowne of the British Broadcasting Corporation, who had been Head of Programmes Training in the Gold Coast Broadcasting Service, became Sierra Leone's first Director of Broadcasting. He was appointed as a member of the Public Relations Department, which continued to be responsible for

programmes, but it is intended that in 1958 he will head a separate department. The technical side of broadcasting was retained in the hands of the Postmaster-General, whose staff arranged many outside broadcasts.

The number of subscribers to the Freetown Rediffusion System was 4,314; the number of licences issued to holders of wireless receiving sets was 3,356.

The Sierra Leone Broadcasting Station in Freetown which was successfully inaugurated on the 27th October, 1955, transmits daily on a frequency of 3,316 KCS in the 90 metre band. Its hours of transmission, originally from 1750—2200 hours, have been increased by the addition of two further periods, 0645—0800 hours and 1645—1750 hours. Local programmes and news, the General Overseas Service of the British Broadcasting Corporation, and other West African programmes are regularly broadcast, and a number of successful outside broadcasts were made, particularly during the Sierra Leone Festival of the Arts.

FILMS

Regular free supplies of 35 and 16 mm. films were received through the Central Office of Information. The 35 mm. films were circulated among the three commercial cinemas in Freetown and Bo and the two non-commercial cinemas at the mining centres of Marampa and Yengema. The 16 mm. films were added to the Public Relations Department film library and made available to the British Council, missions, educational institutions and youth organizations.

Film shows were given in the Colony area and in each district of the Protectorate by mobile van or cinema units. Instructional film shows were given on behalf of Government departments and other institutions.

The Cinema Section provided cinema shows and public address equipment during Sierra Leone Festival of Arts in December.

INFORMATION SERVICES

It is the responsibility of the Public Relations Office to ensure the widest possible dissemination of information about the policies and activities of the Government and its many departments, both to inform the public understanding and to obtain its co-operation.

The Weekly Bulletin which has a circulation of 6,500 per issue, plays a vital part in informing the Protectorate about the Government's activities and other important news.

Schemes for the expansion of the department in 1958 were prepared, and the Government agreed to change the department's name from the Public Relations Department to the Department of Information. The expansion was necessary to meet the increasing amount of work which the department has to face.

Regular supplies of reading material including newspapers, periodicals, magazines, photo-posters, maps and other visual material

were sent to schools, Native Administration, Paramount Chiefs, Community Centres, District Councils and libraries, and were much appreciated.

All the year's important official and non-official functions were photographed. Copies of photographs were supplied to local and overseas publications, and also displayed at centres in Freetown. Suitable photographs depicting Sierra Leone, its people, its industries, and its social and welfare services were supplied for display at the new galleries of the Imperial Institute in London.

A reference library was added to the department's reading room in Freetown.

General Election

The Public Relations Department undertook a widespread publicity campaign for Sierra Leone's first general election in May, 1957. Radio programmes, cinema shows, and demonstrations were given throughout the country. Specially printed pamphlets and posters were issued.

The department also organised illuminated result boards in the chief towns and linked them—with the co-operation of the Postmaster-General—by telephone and telegraph so that the hour-by-hour position could be readily learnt.

Chapter 13 : Local Forces

THE principal military force in Sierra Leone is the 1st Battalion of the Sierra Leone Regiment, Royal West African Frontier Force. The Sierra Leone Signal Squadron and a unit of the West African Army Service Corps are also stationed in the territory.

The Sierra Leone Regiment traces its history back to the Sierra Leone Frontier Police raised in 1890 for service in the Colony and more particularly in the adjacent territories of what was later to become the Protectorate. The force was recruited from the local African tribes and included a number of transfers from the civil police. Its strength, including officers, was 288. At that time it was employed in the protection of the Colony's interests in the adjacent territories before the formal establishment of the Protectorate in 1896.

In 1896 the "Frontiers," together with other forces, were engaged in quelling the widespread rising in protest against the imposition of the hut tax in the newly constituted Protectorate. Later, columns marched through the Protectorate to show the flag and assist in the pacification of troubled areas.

A detachment of the "Frontiers" took part in the Ashanti Campaign of 1900-01 in the Gold Coast. They were employed as scouts and were highly regarded as the only members of the force trained in bush warfare.

1902 marked the creation of the Sierra Leone Battalion of the West African Frontier Force. All officers received military rank and the battalion had an establishment of 600 rank and file.

In 1903 the Battalion was re-organised on a basis of five companies, each of 98 rank and file.

In 1905, the Battalion took part in operations against raiding Kissis who came chiefly from French and Liberian territory.

In 1906 the Moa Barracks were built at Daru and this became the headquarters of the Battalion until 1928.

During the first World War two companies of the Battalion saw service in Togoland and later in the Cameroons where they took part in the capture of Duala. The remainder of the Battalion also went to the Cameroons. After the campaign the Battalion returned to Daru.

In 1928 the W.A.F.F. received the honour of becoming a "Royal" Force. In that year the Battalion moved to Freetown to relieve the West African Regiment which was disbanded.

In 1940 a 2nd Battalion of the Sierra Leone Regiment was formed. This Battalion remained in Sierra Leone during the war. The 1st Battalion was included in the 6th West African Infantry Brigade with Battalions from the Gambia and Nigeria. This Brigade was trained in Nigeria with the 81st West African Infantry Division and went with that formation to India in 1943. The Battalion saw active service in the Second and Third Arakan campaigns of 1944-45. It took part in the operations which led to the capture of Myohaung in January, 1945, when 81 (W.A.) Division linked up with 82 (W.A.) Division.

After the war the 2nd Battalion was disbanded and the 1st Battalion returned to Freetown. The Regiment's Training Centre is still based at the old headquarters at Daru.

The 1st Battalion is employed now chiefly on Internal Security duties and on ceremonial parades.

The battalion was called out in aid of the civil authorities on the 29th August, during the events in the diamond areas described in the General Review, and was deployed in the Kono area, where it remained until the middle of October.

At the end of the year the strength of the Sierra Leone Naval Volunteer Force had increased to five officers and eighty Chief Petty Officers and other ranks. The enthusiasm of this voluntary force is indicated by the fact that over 50% forego their weekend holidays whenever sea training is available, and that when it was necessary for expenditure on the force to be limited three officers voluntarily gave up their pay and allowances to provide funds for fuel and training.

PART III

Chapter 1 : Geography and Climate

THE Colony and Protectorate of Sierra Leone form a relatively small and compact territory of some 27,925 square miles (a little smaller than Scotland) on the Atlantic Coast of West Africa, about $7\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ north of the Equator. It has a common frontier with French Guinea, save in the south east where it marches with Liberia. Free-town, the capital and chief port, is about 3,500 miles by air from London.

Physically, Sierra Leone lies on the seaward slopes of a series of high plateaux which divide the headwaters of the Niger from those of the shorter Atlantic rivers. These plateaux in many places form an imposing mountain range. This has no collective name in English, but, following the French Geographers, could be called the Spine of Guinea.

In Sierra Leone these plateaux are mainly granitic, but there are also outcrops of the Kambui Schists, which are of great importance for their minerals, containing as they do economic concentrations of chromite, iron ore and gold, as well as deposits of other minerals. The edge of the plateau country is defined by a scarp trending north north-west—south south-east along a line which virtually bisects the territory. The highland area to the north east of this scarp averages one to two thousand feet, but it rises in a series of steps to higher plateaux, of which the Loma Mountains reach 6,390 feet, one of the highest points in West Africa. This extensive highland area is one of isolation due to low population densities and to the cost and difficulty of road building. In the southern part, however, this has been broken down where the road and railway run up the Moa valley and where alluvial diamonds are being exploited.

The scarp separates the highlands from a wide lowland. Up to 60 miles broad, it averages 150-200 feet in height, and is underlain mainly by ancient schists and granites, except where there is a wide outcrop of the Rokel River sandstones and mudstones underlying much of the inner part. The region is a rolling plain with level upper surfaces which slope, usually gently, down to wide, ill drained bottom lands, known as *bolis*. Above the general level of the plains rise isolated hills or “inselbergs,” of which Masaboin, a mountain of iron ore, is the site of the Lunsar iron mines.

Bordering this inner, continental plain is a coastal plain, 20 miles wide on the average and seldom more than 50 feet high. It is underlain by young sedimentary rocks, gravels, sands and clays, of the Bullom series. A geologically recent rise in sea level has drowned the lower parts of the area to form a highly articulated coastline of

numerous estuaries, of which the Sierra Leone River (Freetown Harbour) is the largest and best known. The fringes of these estuaries are shallow and swampy, but in the central part of the coastlands there is an outcrop of very resistant igneous rocks, norite for the most part. This forms the Colony Mountains, which rise out of the sea to a height of over 2,000 feet forming a most impressive feature. These offer firm shorelines connected by a neck of dry ground back through the swamps to the inland plains. Together with the adjacent harbour they explain the siting and continued growth of Freetown.

The territory is drained by a series of parallel rivers which rise in the highlands and flow south-westward into the estuaries. Though they normally contain plenty of water and are navigable by launches in their lower reaches, they are much interrupted by rapids, especially where they emerge from the highlands on to the plains. They are deeply entrenched into the highlands, which they have much dissected, but flow in comparatively wide and shallow valleys across the plains.

The climate is tropical, that is, temperatures are constantly high and there is a very marked alternation of wet and dry seasons. Everywhere temperatures show but little variation, either seasonal or diurnal, but these ranges are greater inland and at higher altitudes than along the coast. At Freetown there is no more than 4° between the mean of 78° for August, the coolest month, and that for April, the hottest. The mean daily range is 9.5° . At Makeni, on the inner plains, the mean daily range is 19.3° and at Kabala, in the northern highlands, it is 22.2° . At these places the annual range is little greater than at Freetown.

In consequence the seasons are marked by presence or absence of rain. From December to March is the dry season. Atmospheric conditions are stable, humidity is fairly low and the chance of any rain very small. At times these conditions are intensified by a period of "Harmattan," when very dry desert air reaches the surface. Visibility is reduced by haze, humidity falls to very low levels, and variation between night and day temperatures increases.

In contrast, from June to September, moist air from the south predominates, bringing long periods of steady, continuous rain, with very bright and sunny intervals, when temperatures and humidity are high. Falls of 9 inches in 24 hours are virtually annual events at Freetown, the highest recorded in one day being 15.95 inches in the hills behind the town.

The intervening weeks of the change of season are characterised by extreme instability, when rain falls either as a result of local convectional storms or of the passage of Disturbance Lines. These move westward at 25-30 m.p.h. and bring rain accompanied by violent squalls, generally up to 45 m.p.h. together with much thunder and lightning. Rain falls torrentially often at the rate of 5 or 6 inches an hour for short periods.

The amount and proportion of the total rainfall brought by the "Monsoon" is highest along the coast, which has the greatest fall.

Inland, the amount declines, while the proportion brought by storms increases. Finally, the south receives more rain than the north. Thus Rokupr has an average of 115 inches; Freetown 153 and Sulima 177. Over most of the plains, averages exceed 100 inches, but in the highlands they are less than 100, and at Kabala in the north the mean is 86.5 inches.

Geology and climate have combined to have a largely adverse effect on soils. Those developed from the schists and sandstones are in the main poor in plant nutrients. The alternation of wet and dry seasons has led to the widespread formation of lateritic (iron pan) crusts on the level surfaces of plains and plateaux alike, greatly reducing their value for agriculture and often making it impossible to do any farming. The torrential rain leads to soil wash and extensive leaching of the mid-slopes which are free of iron-pan. Finally, the bottom lands are alternately waterlogged and dessicated, while the coastal swamps are frequently saline.

The seasonal incidence of rainfall also leads to problems of water supply. Over much of the country widespread flooding alternates with severe water shortage, not only for plants, but for human beings and animals. This shortage is especially troublesome on the outcrops of Bullom and Rokel River sandstones.

Under natural conditions, most of the country would be under closed forest, much of it of the tropical rain forest type with a relative abundance of species, many of them valuable for timber. In the north and north east however this would have given way under dryer conditions to Guinea savanna, more or less wooded. Locally throughout the forest area, waterlogging, seasonal or permanent, or lateritic crusts would have also prevented its growth. Most of the high forest has, however, been cleared for farming and only in the east and south east are there any extensive remnants, now in reserves, the largest of which, the Gola Reserve, is 227 square miles. They are managed by the Forestry Department and produce a steady flow of timber, which, however, is insufficient to meet the home demand.

For the rest, the vegetation of the forest area is now either "High Bush" (secondary forest) or "Low Bush" (scrub and thicket). As a result of shortened fallow periods due to over-farming there is a general tendency for large areas of the former to be converted into the latter.

The Guinea Savanna of the north is very varied in composition, ranging from a thick savanna woodland to stretches of open grassland on the higher land. There is a tendency for grassland to spread through bush burning. Throughout the country, where the lateritic crusts are thick, there is a poor savanna vegetation of *Lophira alata* or of grasses only, and these areas are of very low value.

Along the coasts, where the land is permanently waterlogged and saline, there are extensive mangrove forests. Elsewhere, where there are permanent fresh water swamps, the *raphia* palm flourishes, while in the seasonal swamps grass and oil palms are found.

In the absence of any recent reliable census, no accurate picture

of the population distribution in response to the environment as outlined can be given. The population was estimated in 1956 to be in the region of 2,000,000, which gives a mean density of 72 per square mile, above the average for West Africa as a whole. Most of the people belong either to the Mende or Temne tribes, but there are a number of other tribal groups. All these are cultivators, though those along the coast are also fishermen. On the northern grasslands, however, there are migrant Fula (Fulani) cattlemen. Many of the people of the Colony Peninsula are Creoles, the descendants of freed slaves settled here from the later eighteenth century onwards. In recent years there has, however, been a large immigration from the Protectorate into both the urban and rural areas of the Colony.

In spite of its mountainous nature, the Colony Peninsula is the area of closest settlement, mainly in the peripheral towns and villages which are situated on the coast and along the main road and the railway into the interior. *Freetown* is the largest of these. It has an excellent site, is on one of the world's finest natural harbours and has reasonable communications with the rest of the country. Besides this, it is the chief port and the administrative and commercial capital. It has grown rapidly in recent years. In 1948 it had some 64,576 inhabitants, but the present population probably exceeds that figure by one third. Some 65,000 people live in the rural areas of the Colony, many of which are suburban to Freetown.

Outside the Colony Peninsula about 870,000 people live on the plains, both coastal and inner. The population thus averages about 90 per square mile, though distribution is by no means even. Much of the settlement is along the coast, where there are numerous fishing villages and small, rather decaying ports, such as *Bonthe* and *Port Loko*, or along the roads and railway, where cash crops can be easily evacuated and consumer goods brought in. The swamps and areas of lateritic crusts as well as the Rokel River sandstones are largely avoided. *Bo* is the administrative headquarters of the Protectorate and is an important trading centre. It is the largest up-country town and owes its early importance to being the night stop on the railway. *Magburaka* and *Makeni* are two of the other not very numerous towns. *Lunsar* is a rapidly growing iron mining centre.

The highlands are much more sparsely peopled, being but little less in area but with only about half the number of people. This represents a population density of about 44 per square mile. Most of the people are, however, concentrated in the south east, especially in the agricultural areas of the Moa Basin and in the diamond areas. *Kenema* District has an estimated density of 64 per square mile, while *Koinadugu* District, in the extreme north, has a density of but 21. *Kenema* and *Segbwema* are railheads for the diamond areas and as such are growing fast. *Yengema* and *Sefadu* are the largest settlements in the diamond area itself.

Agriculture is the mainstay of the country and the principal occupation of the people. It is principally carried on for subsistence,

but a surplus of foodstuffs is available for sale to the towns and there is also production for export. The fact that this latter has been more accurately measured should not be allowed to obscure the fact that it is subsidiary to subsistence production. The latter is carried on everywhere, save for some negative areas. On the plains the *bolis* have hitherto been avoided; while wherever it exists lateritic crust must be avoided. Fertility is maintained by the use of long fallow periods when the land is allowed to revert to its natural vegetation, a system best called "bush fallow rotation" and not "shifting agriculture." Hill rice, cassava and some other grains and roots form the principal crops. Due mainly to the shortening of fallow periods there has been a continuous decline in fertility.

In the present century much use has been made of the coastal mangrove swamps for the growing of swamp rice and this crop has more recently spread to the riverain swamps and the *bolis*. Paradoxically, Sierra Leone has been forced to import large quantities of rice, the staple diet, as the growth of towns has outpaced that of rice production.

Over most of the area at one time forested, *oil palms*, relics of this forest, are numerous, especially on the plains east and north east of Freetown and east of the Sewa River. While the pericarp oil is consumed locally, the kernels are one of the country's chief exports, though they have tended to decline in quantity and value in recent years. Strictly this form of production is collecting rather than cultivation, though efforts are being made by the Department of Agriculture to popularise the cultivation of high yielding varieties of palm. From the raphia swamps of the Bonthe and Sulima areas *piassava*, a fibre used in the manufacture of brooms and brushes, is collected and forms an important export. *Kola* is obtained from trees in the remaining forests of the south and south east. Cultivated crops for export are *cocoa* from the south-east and *coffee* from a rather wider area in the south.

There are some 175,000 cattle, kept for the most part by the Fula on the grasslands of the north. Grazing areas are spreading southward, but a more rapid extension is prevented not only by lack of pasture, but by the prejudice of cultivators.

Mining is now the principal production for export. Alluvial diamonds, which include a high proportion of gemstones, are mined in the Yengema area of the Bafi Basin. About 22 per cent by value of the production is from the large scale company operations, the remainder from the small scale activities of licensed African diggers. It has proved difficult in the last few years to control unlicensed digging and illegal exports, which in 1956 were estimated at £5M. Iron ore is present in great quantities at Masaboin Hill, Lunsar and there are even vaster reserves in Tonkolili, the scarp area behind Magburaka. Plans are afoot for the development of the latter, while the former is exploited by a large company, some 1½ million tons a year being exported through Pepel on the Sierra Leone River, which is connected to Lunsar by a private railway 57½ miles long.

Chromite is mined in the Kambui Hills, lorried 5 miles to Hangha station, whence it is railed to Freetown for export. There are widespread deposits of alluvial gold in the upper basins of the Rokel, Sewa and Moa rivers. Most of the richer surface deposits are worked out, though there are still a few licensed diggers. The deeper deposits await large scale exploitation. Deposits of ilmenite (titanium ore) exist in Bonthe District and plans for their exploitation are being worked out. (*Note: figures for agricultural and mineral production can be found in Part II, Chapter 6*).

The high rainfall, numerous rivers and rapids mean that a considerable potential for hydro-electric power exists. However, because of seasonal variation in flow and the lack of a market nothing has, as yet, been done to develop this power, except that it is hoped to supply Freetown with some power as a by-product of the Guma River Scheme for improving the Freetown water supply. Works are being carried out in the mountains some 12 miles to the south of the town. Otherwise all power is generated by the diesel stations provided at nearly all the larger towns and mines.

Manufacturing industry can scarcely be said to exist, apart from a little weaving locally and the production of mineral water in Freetown. The remaining economic activities are, therefore, concerned with trade and transport.

In the past the territory depended very much on water transport, made possible by the deeply indented coastline and the numerous rivers navigable by canoe. Widespread road building in recent years has, however, reduced its importance by connecting the producing areas directly with Freetown. Launches still ply regularly between the latter and Bonthe, the Rokel and the Scarcies. But the rivers which have favoured water transport are a barrier to land transport, which is mostly eastward and northward from Freetown athwart the courses of the rivers. This has led to numerous ferries being necessary, though these are steadily being replaced by bridges. Viaducts, too, are the principal engineering features of the railway. Lorry traffic has greatly increased in recent years, but the condition of the main roads and the amount of traffic offering still justifies the retention of the narrow gauge railway.

Chapter 2 : History

THE first written records of Sierra Leone are those of the Portuguese voyagers of discovery in the 15th century. Pedro da Cintra gave it its name about the year 1460 and in the succeeding decades the Portuguese built, but after a few years abandoned, a fortress on the shore of the Sierra Leone River. Adventurers from other countries soon followed, not as colonisers but as pirates and slave-traders. Sir John Hawkins, who came on a slave-raiding expedition in 1562 was probably the first Englishman to land here. Drake called in during his voyage round the world. A few relics of these early voyages still survive—the name “Pirates’ Bay,” the stone buried in Freetown bearing the names of the Dutch Admirals De Ruyter and Van Meppel who took in water at the stream there in 1664, and the ruins of the fort on Bunce Island with its slave-barracoons and churchyard. There were also barracoons on the neighbouring Tasso and Gambia Islands, and indeed all along the coast from the Rio Pongas down to the Sherbro and to Sulima.

The Colony of Sierra Leone was founded as an attempt to atone for the horrors of this slave trade. Granville Sharp, a friend of Wilberforce and a leader in the movement to abolish slavery, designed it as a home for slaves freed and destitute in England. In 1787 he sent out the first settlers to what he called “The Province of Freedom,” where they were granted a strip of land on the north shore of the peninsula by the Temne King Naimbanna and there founded Freetown. In 1789 the settlers quarrelled with the neighbouring King Jimmy, who destroyed the town and drove them away. But in 1790 the enterprise was taken on by the Sierra Leone Company, of which Sharp was a director, more settlers were sent out, and in 1792 Lieutenant John Clarkson, the first Governor, brought over 300 who had been freed after the American War of Independence and then uncomfortably settled in Nova Scotia. They were joined in 1800 by a group of Maroons, former slaves, sent from Jamaica after an insurrection.

The land did not prove as fertile as it had been described; the settlement was attacked at intervals by neighbouring tribes (aided sometimes by discontented settlers); and in 1794 it was sacked by a French squadron.

After the last Temne raid in 1803, the invasions ceased. The Sierra Leone Company was given a Royal Charter in 1799, and Freetown, already laid out with its regular street-plan, was given a corporation with mayor and aldermen. But the Company was unable to meet the heavy burdens of defence and settlement, and in 1808 Sierra Leone was transferred to the Crown. In 1807 Parliament had passed an Act making the slave trade illegal; the new Colony was

to be a base from which that Act could be enforced. A naval squadron was stationed on the coast to intercept slave ships, and a Court of Vice-Admiralty set up in Freetown to try slave traders. When other nations agreed to prohibit slaving it was supplemented, in 1819, by a Court of Mixed Commission where British and foreign judges heard slave cases jointly.

The first slave ship was condemned, and its cargo freed, in 1808. From then on, hundreds, and in some years thousands, of slaves were freed every year, most of them remaining in Sierra Leone. The whole of the peninsula was ceded by the Temne chiefs and most of the liberated were settled in villages round it. As the Colony could raise little revenue a parliamentary grant, administered by the British Treasury through a special Liberated African Department, provided for the villagers and for churches and schools in the villages.

These liberated Africans or "Creoles" as they came to be called, came from all parts of Africa. Cut off from their homes, they tended to adopt the original settlers' style of living; cut off from their traditions they proved a fruitful field for missionaries. From 1804 the Church Missionary Society and from 1810 the Methodists, had missions here; from the first there had been Methodist congregations among the Nova Scotians, with their own preachers and chapels. Education was left to the churches, the Liberated African Department providing only school buildings in the villages. In 1845, when the Department was greatly reduced, they were all handed over to the missions. The Church Missionary Society had already started an institution for training for the ministry at Fourah Bay in 1827. By 1861 they had trained enough clergy to allow the mission to withdraw from the Colony and to provide the villages with African pastors under the direction of a European bishop. In 1876 the institution was affiliated to Durham University as Fourah Bay College. Only in this century has the government, working through the Education Department, taken an active part in establishing new schools and given grants to existing ones.

Though the Liberated African Department was reduced in 1845, the slave trade still continued and was not extirpated until the eighteen-sixties. The Court of Mixed Commission was finally abolished in 1870. The population, increasing steadily with every capture, by the middle of the century exceeded 40,000, about 16,000 of whom lived in Freetown. Legitimate trade with the interior succeeded the slave trade. The timber trade, started about 1815, flourished until the line forest timber in and near the Colony was all cut down; after 1840 groundnuts, and later palm oil and kernels were exported. Many of the Liberated Africans set up as traders on a large scale. Not until the eighteen-sixties was there serious competition from European firms, and only in this century from Syrians. Freetown became the centre for the trading factories gradually established in the Sherbro, the Rokel, and the Scarcies rivers. Thus the Colony's interests began to extend beyond the peninsula.

The Isles de Los were taken over in 1816; the Banana Islands were leased from the Caulker family in 1820. In 1825 Governor Turner made a treaty of cession with all the Sherbro chiefs, but it was disallowed by the Secretary of State. In general British colonial policy for the greater part of the 19th century disapproved of any expansion of the existing colonies. Succeeding Governors did, however, make treaties of friendship with neighbouring chiefs, usually with a clause prohibiting the slave trade. In 1845 Bai Sherbro ceded a nominal sovereignty over the coast line of the Bullom shore, north to the Scarcies. By 1861 trade in the Sherbro country was important enough for the Secretary of State to allow Governor Hill to take over Sherbro Island and a strip of the mainland as a part of the Colony. Hill also annexed the Koya country where tribal wars were threatening Waterloo and the Colony's eastern boundary. Part of Koya was restored in 1872 by Governor Kennedy.

The boundaries of these accessions and spheres of influence were at first only roughly defined. The great expansion of the French Empire to the north and Liberian claims to the south made accurate definition necessary. After several fruitless commissions the Liberian frontier was settled in 1885, and rectified again in 1911. The French frontier was defined in 1895. A Protectorate was proclaimed over the British sphere of influence encircled by French territory in 1896, judicially and administratively separate from the Colony. It preserved its tribal framework and was governed by District Commissioners, assisted by the Frontier Police Force (and later, the Court Messenger Force), a semi-military body raised in 1890. The Proclamation was received without incident, but the chiefs did not understand all that it implied. In 1898, following the first attempt to collect house tax, many chiefs in the Protectorate came out in revolt and attacked the English-speaking people both black and white, and about 1,000 British subjects together with some American missionaries were killed. The resulting military operations to suppress this disorder were brought to a successful conclusion early in 1899, and since that date the Protectorate has remained peaceful, apart from a lesser outbreak of violence in 1955.

Poor communications in the hinterland were the principal obstacle to the country's economic and social development. At the turn of the century the first section of the Sierra Leone railway was opened, but communication with most areas continued to be by creek and navigable rivers, or by rough bush-paths and head portage. The last section of the railway was completed just before the 1914-18 War. The railway facilitated the export of palm products, and later, as a result of an economic survey in the late twenties, of certain minerals, on which commodities the prosperity of the territory is founded. Road communications outside Freetown did not really exist until 1917-18, and it was not until 1928 that the building of Protectorate trunk roads was seriously taken in hand. It was only in 1940 that the road systems of the Protectorate and of the Colony were linked.

In these circumstances economic development has necessarily been slow, but an idea of the progress may be gained from the increase in the territory's revenue from £300,000 in 1906 to more than £10·4 million in 1957.

Chapter 3 : Administration

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

THE constitution of Sierra Leone is to be found in the following constitutional instruments.

- (i) Letters Patent passed under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom dated 7th April, 1951, and 13th April, 1953, which constitute the office of Governor and the Executive Council and provide for the appointment of Judges and other officers, the grant of pardons and the disposal of Crown lands.
- (ii) The Sierra Leone Protectorate Order in Council, dated 9th April, 1951, as amended by the Sierra Leone Protectorate (Amendment) Order in Council dated 1st April, 1953, which defines the limits of the Protectorate, invests the Governor of the Colony with the power of Governor of the Protectorate, and provides that the Executive Council of the Colony shall also be the Executive Council of the Protectorate.
- (iii) Instructions passed under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet dated 18th December, 1956, relating to the membership, constitution, and procedure of the Executive Council, the responsibilities of Ministers, legislation, the disposition of Crown lands, appointments, and the grant of pardons in capital cases.
- (iv) The Sierra Leone (House of Representatives) Order in Council dated 29th November, 1956, which provides for the election of a Speaker and Deputy Speaker, the constitution, powers and privileges of the House of Representatives, the qualifications for elected and nominated members, and the legislative power and procedure of the House.

By virtue of these instruments the constitutional instruments of 1951 and 1953 have been revoked, and the previous Legislative Council replaced by a House of Representatives.

The Executive Council consists of the Governor as President, of four *ex-officio* members who are the Colonial Secretary, the Chief Commissioner of the Protectorate, the Attorney-General and the Financial Secretary, and of not less than four Ministers, who must be elected members of the House of Representatives, selected and appointed by the Governor by instrument under the Public Seal, for a term of not more than five years.

The House of Representatives consists of:

- (i) A Speaker,
- (ii) Four *ex-officio* members, who are the Chief Secretary, the Chief Commissioner for the Protectorate, the Attorney-General, and the Financial Secretary.
- (iii) Fourteen persons elected in the Colony;
- (iv) Thirty-seven persons elected in the Protectorate, twelve of whom shall be Paramount Chiefs indirectly elected by District Councils,
- (v) two nominated members, appointed by the Governor by instrument under the Public Seal, whose voting powers are regulated by the Order in Council.

Power is vested in the Governor to make temporary appointments to fill vacancies among the *ex-officio* or nominated members.

Decisions in the House of Representatives are reached by a majority of votes, the Speaker or his Deputy having neither an original nor a casting vote. If upon any question before the House the votes are equally divided, the motion is declared lost. No business except that of adjournment may be transacted in the House of Representatives if objection is taken by any members present that there are less than 20 members present besides the Speaker, Deputy Speaker or other member presiding.

Certain powers are reserved to the Governor to declare that ordinances and motions not passed by the Legislature shall have effect if he considers it expedient in the interests of public order, public faith or good government, subject to consultation with his Executive Council or, if his declaration is contrary to the advice of that Council, to authority being obtained from the Secretary of State. The Governor is required to dissolve the House of Representatives at the end of five years from the last preceding general election, if it has not been sooner dissolved. A general election was held in May, 1957.

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

His Excellency the Governor, Sir Maurice Dorman, K.C.M.G.

The Chief Secretary, A. N. A. Waddell, Esq., C.M.G., D.S.C.

The Chief Commissioner of the Protectorate, H. Childs, Esq., C.M.G., O.B.E.

The Attorney-General, A. C. Spurling, Esq., Q.C.

The Financial Secretary, A. M. MacLeod-Smith, Esq., C.M.G.

Dr. M. A. S. Margai, M.B.E., Chief Minister

M. S. Mustapha, Esq., Minister of Natural Resources

H. E. B. John, Esq., Minister of Education and Social Welfare

Dr. J. Kerefa-Smart, Minister of Lands, Mines and Labour

D. L. Summer, Esq., Minister of Communications

I. B. Kamara, Esq., Minister of Trade and Industry

Kande Bureh, Esq., Minister of Works and Housing

Paramount Chief R. B. S. Koker, M.B.E., Minister without Portfolio.

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

President

The Governor, Sir Maurice Henry Dorman, K.C.M.G.

Speaker

Henry J. Lightfoot Boston, Esq.

Ex-Officio Members

The Chief Secretary—A. N. A. Waddell, Esq., C.M.G., D.S.C.

The Chief Commissioner of the Protectorate, H. Childs, Esq.,
C.M.G., O.B.E.

The Attorney-General, A. C. Spurling, Esq., Q.C.

The Financial Secretary, A. M. Macleod-Smith, Esq., C.M.G.

Unofficial Members

Paramount Chief Alimamy Jaia Kai Kai, M.B.E., J.P. (Member
for Pujehun District Council)

Mahmoud Ahmed, Esq., (Member for Kambia West Electoral
District)

J. Baimba, Esq. (Second Member for Sherbro Electoral District)

Paramount Chief Dudu Bona, J.P. (Member for Kono District
Council)

M. J. Kamanda Bongay, Esq. (Member for Bo Town Council)

Kandeh Bureh, Esq. (Second Member for Freetown [East]
Electoral District)

G. Kester Campbell, Esq. (Member for York Electoral District)

H. A. Conteh, Esq. (Member for Tonkolili [East] Electoral
District)

J. C. O. Crowther, Esq., O.B.E., J.P. (Member for Waterloo
Electoral District)

A. H. Demby, Esq. (Member for Kenema [South] Electoral
District)

Paramount Chief Kekura Fangawa (Member for Kenema District
Council)

Paramount Chief Mada Ella Koblo Gulama (Member for
Moyamba District Council)

Paramount Chief Fabunde Gberi (Member for Bonthe District
Council)

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District)

A. B. M. Jah, Esq. (Member for Pujehun [North] Electoral
District)

H. E. B. John, Esq. (First Member for Freetown [West] Electoral
District)

J. Barthes Wilson, Esq. (Second Member for Freetown [West]
Electoral District)

J. Nelson-Williams, Esq. (Second Member for Freetown [Central]
Electoral District)

C. B. Rogers Wright, Esq. (Member for Port Loko [East] Elec-
toral District)

T. S. Johnson, Esq. (Member for Kissy Electoral District)

I. T. A. Wallace-Johnson, Esq. (Member for Wilberforce Elec-
toral District)

M. Kallon, Esq. (Member for Kailahun [West] Electoral District)
 Paramount Chief Bai Seboru Kamal II (Member for Bombali District Council)

A. B. Kamara, Esq. (Member for Port Loko [West] Electoral District)

I. B. Kamara, Esq. (Member for Kambia [East] Electoral District)

A. H. Kande, Esq. (Member for Koinadugu [North] Electoral District)

R. G. O. King, Esq. (Member for British Koya Electoral District)
 Paramount Chief R. B. S. Koker, M.B.E., J.P. (Member for Bo District Council)

H. I. Kamara, Esq. (Member for Bombali [East] Electoral District)

T. S. Mbriwa, Esq. (Member for Kono [North] Electoral District)

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S. B. Marah, Esq. (Member for Koinadugu [South] Electoral District)

A. M. Margai, Esq. (Member for Moyamba [South] Electoral District)

Dr. M. A. S. Margai, M.B.E. (Member for Bonthe [South] Electoral District)

A. J. Massally, Esq. (Member for Pujehun [South] Electoral District)

C. F. Massally, Esq. (Member for Bonthe [North] Electoral District)

M. S. Mustapha, Esq. (First Member for Freetown [East] Electoral District)

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S. T. Navo, Esq. (Member for Bo [North] Electoral District)

T. Ngobeh, Esq. (Member for Kailahun [East] Electoral District)

Paramount Chief Bai Koblo Pathbana, M.B.E. (Member for Port Loko District Council)

Y. D. Sesay, Esq. (Member for Bombali [West] Electoral District)

Dr. J. Karefa Smart (Member for Tonkolili [West] Electoral District)

D. L. Sumner, Esq. (Member for Kenema [North] Electoral District)

G. Dickson Thomas, Esq. (Member for Mountain Electoral District)

P. W. H. Wright, Esq. (First Member for Freetown [Central] Electoral District)

Paramount Chief Bai Seboru Yumkella II, J.P. (Member for Kambia District Council)

J. P. Birch, Esq., C.B.E., E.D. (First Nominated Member)

E. D. Morgan, Esq., M.B.E. (Second Nominated Member)

Clerk of the House of Representatives

S. V. Wright, Esq.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN THE COLONY

For administrative purposes the territory is divided into the Colony and the Protectorate. The Colony is British territory acquired by purchase of a concession, as described in the previous chapter, under treaties entered into with native chiefs and tribal authorities from 1807 onwards. In detail it consists of the Sierra Leone Peninsula, Sherbro Island, the Tasso, Banana, Turtle, Plantain and York Islands, other small islets, and some small areas of territory inland. Of these areas, only the Peninsula of Sierra Leone, Tasso Island, Banana Island, York Island and the township of Bonthe are administered as parts of the colony, the other areas being administered in every respect as if they were within the Protectorate.

The Colony is administered by the following authorities:

- (a) The Freetown City Council (as constituted under the Freetown Municipality Ordinance Cap. 91);
- (b) The local authorities constituted under the Rural Area Ordinance, No. 11 of 1949.
- (c) The Sherbro Urban District Council, under Ordinance No. 22 of 1950.

Freetown City Council. The Council consists of the Mayor, aldermen and councillors. Four councillors are elected by each of the three wards of the City; the Governor in Council may also appoint six councillors of whom at least two must be Africans. After election the councillors in turn elect three aldermen and the Mayor. The normal term of office of councillors is three years and for the Mayor one year.

The Council discharges a number of normal municipal responsibilities, including the provision of a fire brigade, markets and slaughter houses, public parks and gardens, the care of public cemeteries, the lighting of thoroughfares and the recovery of water rates. In addition various "Tribal Headmen" in Freetown have certain limited administrative powers over the members of the indigenous tribes who reside within the municipality.

Rural Area Council. The Rural Area of the Colony, which comprises the whole Colony Peninsula including the Banana and Tasso Islands, is administered under a three-tier system of local government, which was established in July, 1950. The base of the structure is made up of 28 Village Area Committees. Each of these elects a prescribed number of its members to a Rural District Council. There are six District Councils and they perform the main executive duties of local government; these include the construction and maintenance of roads, provision of water supplies, parks, gardens and other public places of recreation and the regulation of markets, slaughterhouses and cemeteries.

Each District Council elects two members to the Rural Area Council. The duties of this Council are to act as a channel of communication between the Central Government and the Rural District Councils and to assist, co-ordinate and supervise the Rural District

Councils and Village Area Committees in the performance of their duties. Each Village Area Committee and District Council elects its own Chairman. For the first three years of its existence, the Commissioner, Headquarters Judicial and Freetown Police Districts, was appointed President of Rural Area Council by the Governor, but the Council was authorised in March, 1953, to elect one of its elected members to be President, and Mr. R. G. O. King was subsequently elected.

Instead of the former house tax of 5s. per house, the Rural Area Council is empowered to impose a rural area rate and the village Area Committee are likewise empowered to impose a village improvement cess. A valuation of all premises in the area was carried out in 1950 and is being revised annually. The Rural Area rate on the assessed value of premises for 1956 was 1s. 6d. in the £. In addition the Village Area Committees imposed village improvements cesses ranging from 6d. to 1s. 10d. in the £.

With the help of funds from Central Government for community development, many Village Area Committees have been able to provide community centres and improved water supplies in their respective areas.

Sherbro Urban District Council. The Sherbro Urban District, which includes the town of Bonthe, York Island and adjacent small islands, lies within the District of Bonthe. The Sherbro Urban District is administered as part of the Colony, whilst the rest of Bonthe District (the greater part) is administered by the District Commissioner as part of the Protectorate.

In order to re-organise the administration of the Sherbro Urban District on a popular basis along lines proposed by a Committee appointed by the Governor to recommend a more appropriate form of local government for the District the Sherbro Urban District Council Ordinance was passed in December, 1950. The Ordinance repealed and replaced the Sherbro Judicial District Ordinance which was originally enacted in 1923, and it makes provision for a Sherbro Urban District Council, which consists of eight councillors, two elected by each of the three wards into which the District is divided, one nominated by the Governor, and *ex-officio* the Medical Officer, Bonthe. The Council has chosen one of the elected councillors to be president. It exercises functions similar to those exercised by the Freetown City Council and by the various local authorities created under the Rural Area Ordinance, No. 11 of 1949.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN THE PROTECTORATE

The Protectorate is divided into 12 administrative districts, each of which is in the charge of a District Commissioner. These districts are grouped into three Provinces, which are administered by Provincial Commissioners to whom the District Commissioners are directly responsible. The Provincial Commissioners are responsible

to the Chief Commissioner, whose headquarters are at Bo and who is responsible to the Governor for the general administration of the whole Protectorate.

It may be helpful to preface this brief account of the administration of the Protectorate with a word or two regarding the duties of the district administrative staff. In his administrative capacity a District Commissioner is the representative of the Colonial Government in the district committed to his charge. On him the success of the whole system of government depends. It is his part to integrate the efforts of others, both official and unofficial, and to direct them into the most productive courses. His enthusiasm, energy and example bear fruit in direct proportion to the degree in which they are displayed and there can be few jobs of importance to-day in which these qualities are more vital, or their effect more quickly apparent in the results they produce.

The District Commissioner is responsible for supervising the collection of the tax and other revenue in his district. He co-ordinates the activities of the officers of the technical departments. In the maintenance of law and order, both the Police and the chieftom authorities are subject to the guidance of Provincial and District Commissioners. He is the friend and adviser of the paramount chiefs, the tribal authorities and the people. He is the support of the recognised native authority, the upholder of its prestige, and the protector of the poor against oppression by their rulers. He is the mouthpiece of the government, and the interpreter and demonstrator of its policy. He supervises the work of the Native Administrations and the Native Courts, and, if necessary, is expected to construct a road, or a school, or dispensary, and to perform any duty for which the recognised technical staff may not be available. The claims on him are multifarious and unending, and he is always on duty.

As in other parts of Africa, the basis of social life is the family. Either for protection, or for co-operation in husbandry, or through inter-marriage, families have combined to form villages. The villages have for some similar reasons combined to form the extended village, or section, while a number of sections constitute the chieftom which is the principal administrative unit of the Protectorate. Altogether there are 145 of these chieftoms. The estimated total population of the Protectorate in 1952 was over 1,888,000, giving an average of over 12,500 in each chieftom. Each is in the charge of a paramount chief, who is elected and assisted by an advisory council known as the tribal authority. This is composed of the section chief and sub-chiefs and the headmen of the larger villages, together with a number of elders who no longer take any active part in public life, but whose opinions and advice are respected. At the present time tribal authorities are not rigidly constituted, but any attempt on the part of a chief to give preference to his own friends is resisted.

In 1936 a measure of organised local administration was introduced as an experiment in two chieftoms. Chieftom treasuries

were established, and all males of marriageable age were required to pay an annual tax, usually fixed at 4s. and assessable in the same manner as the Government house tax, in return for which they were relieved of the communal services formerly required of them. Since their establishment the rate of tax has been increased in all chiefdoms and it at present stands at 25s. In addition, court fees and fines, together with any other fees ordinarily paid personally to a chief, were credited to the public revenue of the chiefdom. From these revenues the chief and other officials were paid fixed stipends and payments were made for services which were formerly performed free.

By the end of 1957, 142 chiefdoms were organised on these lines, leaving only three small chiefdoms unorganised. Their total estimated revenue for 1957 amounted to £661,613. Their funds are spent on social services, such as small primary schools and minor medical and health measures, offices and court houses. Afforestation on a small scale is being attempted, and the organisation of seed-farms and other agricultural activities is in hand. The Central Government contributes half the cost of the salaries of chiefdoms clerical staff and messengers and assists with small financial grants, but the main activities are run by the people themselves and paid for with their own money. In time, it is hoped that all chiefdoms will become organised Native Administrations.

Every chiefdom, whether reorganised as a Native Administration or not, constitutes a separate administrative unit. The total number of chiefdoms has been considerably reduced of recent years as a result of the policy which has been founded of amalgamating two or more chiefdoms which were too small to form satisfactory economic units, although such amalgamations were only carried out when the people of the chiefdoms concerned desired them.

During 1949 and 1950 it became clear that there was need for local government units of a size capable of undertaking functions which were beyond the resources of the Native Administrations. This need was particularly felt in connection with plans for local economic development. Accordingly the District Councils Ordinance (No. 17 of 1950) was enacted, under the provisions of which the District Councils, which had been established in 1946 as advisory bodies, were reconstituted as bodies corporate with executive and financial functions, charged with responsibility for promoting the development of the districts and the welfare of the people of the districts. The Ordinance was brought into effect on 1st January, 1951.

The Presidents of all Districts Councils are normally appointed by the Governor in Council on the recommendation of the District Councils. Their membership comprises the paramount chief of each chiefdom in the district, one or more members elected by general adult suffrage in each chiefdom (the number of each chiefdoms' representatives depends on the population) and three co-opted members, natives of or residents in the districts concerned, who are

chosen by the District Councils. The District Councils normally meet twice a year, business in the interim being carried out through committees, the chief of which is the Finance and General Purposes Committee which meets under an elected chairman and is responsible for the detailed control of the district development plans and expenditure under District Council annual estimates.

At the end of 1951 Mr. H. W. Davidson, then Deputy Financial Secretary, was seconded by the Governor to examine the possibilities of enlarging the responsibilities and financial resources of the District Councils. His report was submitted in August, 1952, and recommended that the functions of District Councils be extended by transferring to them the responsibility either wholly, or in part, for some of the public services hitherto discharged by the Central Government. The report, which was adopted as an interim step in the development of local government in Sierra Leone, also recommended that certain items of Central Government revenue should be transferred to the District Councils to enable them to finance the transferred services.

The proposals made by Mr. Davidson were accepted by the District Councils and estimates of revenue and expenditure incorporating the new proposals were drawn up by all District Councils in 1953 and became effective from 1st January, 1954. The District Councils have thus expanded from bodies responsible solely for the economic development of their districts to genuine local government authorities with direct responsibility for the maintenance and expansion of public services within their district.

The Protectorate Assembly, which had existed for many years as an advisory body on Protectorate affairs, had, as a result of constitutional developments, outlived its usefulness by the end of 1956, and was formally abolished in October, 1957.

Elections

The report of the Electoral Reform Commission, signed on 9th September, 1954, was finally adopted by the then Legislative Council on 19th December, 1955, with the reservations recorded in Sessional Papers Nos. 2 and 4 of 1955.

As the first step in providing for the election of a new and enlarged House of Representatives, the Sierra Leone (Electoral Provisions) Order in Council which enabled the Governor to make electoral regulations, came into operation on 11th August, 1956. Regulations for the registration of electors and the holding of elections were published on 22nd November, 1956, and 7th March, 1957, respectively, and were followed on the 8th April, 1957 by the Sierra Leone (House of Representatives) Order in Council, 1956, establishing the new House in place of the old Legislative Council. Finally, the period from 17th April to 20th May was proclaimed as the time during which the General Election to the new House should be held.

As soon as the report of the Electoral Reform Commission had been finally adopted, which was not until 19th December, 1955, it was decided to go ahead with the local government elections as rapidly as possible, pending the final settlement and adoption of a new constitution, when a General Election would be necessary. The existing local government legislation had first to be amended and it was not until 16th April, 1956, that registration of voters for the election of members to District Councils in the Provinces was able to begin. Registration was completed in most districts by the end of July and from August to November local government elections under the new franchise were held in each of the twelve districts in the Provinces. Elections to the Bo Town Council and Sherbro Urban District Council, were also held on 23rd March, 1957 and 26th March, 1957, respectively.

These local elections served as an introduction to the method of voting by secret ballot which was new to the Protectorate, outside Bo Town, so that by the time the General Election was held, the new voting procedure was familiar to the large majority of people throughout the country. The organisation and carrying out of these elections also provided a very useful exercise for Returning Officers and polling staff and the experience gained was invaluable when it came to the General Election.

The date fixed for the General Election was Friday the 3rd of May. Although the desirability of holding the election throughout the country on one and the same day was fully appreciated, lack of staff prevented this being done. In order to find sufficient staff it was necessary to stagger the elections over three polling days, with an interval of five days between each. On the first polling day, polling took place in all the ten Colony electoral districts and in fifteen out of twenty-five electoral districts in the Protectorate, including all those which were nearest to the Colony. On the second polling day, Wednesday, the 8th May, polling took place in a further five electoral districts, while on the third polling day, Monday, 13th May, polling took place in Koinadugu South, the most remote part of the country. Candidates were returned unopposed in four electoral districts in the Provinces.

All three polling days passed off without major incidents of any kind. At times, particularly in Freetown, there were very large crowds outside the polling stations, and it says much for the patience and good-humour of the electorate that no major incidents occurred.

The result of the election was an overwhelming victory for the party in power, the Sierra Leone People's Party, which gained 26 of the 39 seats. This does not, of course, include the Sierra Leone People's Party supporters among the 12 Paramount Chiefs indirectly elected by District Councils.

Chapter 4 : Weights and Measures

REGULATIONS regarding weights and measures in Sierra Leone are laid down in the Weights and Measures Ordinance, Cap. 262, as amended in minor details by later provisions. The units of weight and measures used are the same as those used in the United Kingdom. Standards, verified by the Standards Department of the Board of Trade, are obtained from the United Kingdom from time to time and kept in the Treasury.

Under the provision of the Ordinance, the Commissioner of Police is the *ex-officio* Inspector of Weights and Measures but executive responsibility has been taken over by the Director of Commerce and Industry and a full time Commerce and Industries Assistant (Weights and Measures) has been appointed. This officer with the assistance of Produce Inspection Staff is responsible for the verification of weights and measures and for the issue of Certificates of Justness throughout the whole country.

Chapter 5 : Reading List

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- JARRETT, H. R., *Geography of Sierra Leone and Gambia*. London, Longmans Green, 1954.
- LEWIS, ROY, *Sierra Leone; a modern portrait*. London, H.M. Stationery Office, 1954.
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- THOMPSON, F. W. B., *Sierra Leone in history and tradition*. London, Witherby, 1926.
- UTTING, F. A. J., *Story of Sierra Leone*. London, Longmans, 1931.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS

Obtainable, if in print, from H.M. Stationery Office.

- Mass Education in African Society*. Report of the Adult and Mass Education Sub-Committee of the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies. Colonial No. 186, 1944. Out of print.
- Education for Citizenship in Africa*. Report of a Sub-Committee of the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies. Colonial No. 216, 1948. 1s. 6d.
- Bibliography of Published Sources relating to African Land Tenure*. Colonial No. 258, 1950. 4s.
- Native Administration in the British African Territories*. Part III West Africa. LORD HAILEY. 1951. 17s. 6d.
- Labour Conditions in West Africa*. Cmd. 6277, 1941. Out of print.
- Report of the Mission appointed to enquire into the production and transport of Vegetable Oils and Oil Seeds produced in the West African Colonies. Colonial No. 211, 1947. 1s. 3d.
- Overseas Economic Surveys, British West Africa*. A. R. STARCK. February, 1949. Out of print.
- An Economic Survey of the Colonial Territories, 1951*. Vol. III The West African Territories. Colonial No. 281-3, 1952. 25s.
- Report of the Commission on Higher Education in West Africa*. Cmd. 6655, 1945. 3s.

Report of the Commission on the Civil Service in British West Africa.
Colonial No. 209, 1947. 7s. 6d.

Obtainable, if in print, from the Government Printer, Sierra Leone or through the Crown Agents for Oversea Governments and Administrations, 4, Millbank, London, S.W.1.

SERIAL PUBLICATIONS

Sierra Leone Royal Gazette. 6d. per issue; annual subscription:
Inland £1 5s. Overseas £1 10s.

Revised Laws, 1946, Vols. I-IV. Buckram £8 8s.; half pigakia
£10 10s.

Supplement to the laws of Sierra Leone, 1946-1948. 2 vols. Buckram
£5 5s.

Annual Volumes of Legislation, various prices.

Proceedings of the House of Representatives.

Speeches by His Excellency the Governor to the House of Representatives. Various prices.

His Excellency the Governor's Annual Review of the activities of Government Departments. Various prices.

Annual Departmental Reports, e.g., Agriculture, Education, Trade, Report on the Protectorate. Various prices.

Protectorate Handbook—1957.

AFRICANISATION

Report of the Committee set up to consider the appointment of Africans to the Senior Service of the Government, 1949. 6d.

Report on African Participation in the Commerce of Sierra Leone (Dr. N. A. COX-GEORGE) and the Government statement thereon.
3s.

CENSUS

Census of the Colony and Protectorate of Sierra Leone, 1949. 6d.

CIVIL SERVICE

Report of the Commission on the Civil Service of Sierra Leone, 1952-1953. Sessional Paper No. 2 of 1953. 5s.

Additional Statement on the Report of the Commission of the Civil Service of Sierra Leone. Sessional Paper No. 2A of 1953. 6d.

Report of the West African Survey Mission on the training of Civil Servants in Sierra Leone, 1954. 1s.

Sierra Leone Civil Service Revised Salary Scales, 1955. Sessional Paper No. 3 of 55. 6d.

Report of the Commission on the Civil Service of Sierra Leone (Chairman: L. N. GORSUCH). 4s.

Statement of the Government of Sierra Leone on the Report of the Commission on the Civil Service, 1957. Sessional Paper No. 3 of 1957. 6d.

CLIMATE

Statistics; illustrating the climate of Sierra Leone, 1951. 1s. 6d.

CO-OPERATION

Report on Co-operation in Sierra Leone, 1950. 1s.

Co-operative Mission to Sierra Leone: Report by T. LAMBERT and G. SHEARER, 1950. 6d.

COST OF LIVING

Report on the 1951 Freetown Survey of Household Budgets. (K. M. FRANCIS). 1s. 6d.

Notes on the movement of Retail Prices, 1951-1954. (W. B. REDDAWAY). 1s.

Recommendations about the Cost of Living Index in Sierra Leone. (W. B. REDDAWAY). 1s. 6d.

COURTS

Report on the Native Court System in Sierra Leone. N. J. BROOKE, 1953. 7s. 6d.

CUSTOMS

Customs Export List. 2s. 6d.

Customs Import List. 2s. 6d.

Handbook of Customs and Excise, 1956. 2 Vols. Vol. I 12s. 6d.
Vol. II. 5s.

DEVELOPMENT

An outline of the Ten-Year Plan for the Development of Sierra Leone, 1946. 1s.

A Plan of Economic Development. H. CHILDS, 1949. 2s. 6d.

Correspondence with the Secretary of State on the Plan of Economic Development for Sierra Leone, 1949. 1s.

Further Correspondence from the Secretary of State on the Plan of Economic Development for Sierra Leone, 1950. 6d.

EDUCATION

Higher Education in the British West African Colonies, 1947. 1s.

Higher Education in Sierra Leone, 1948. 1s.

Fourah Bay College, 1948. 1s. 6d.

Further Correspondence on Fourah Bay College. 1949. 6d.

Revision of Teachers' Salaries. 1948. 1s.

Report of the Commission of Enquiry into Conditions of Service of Teachers. 1949. 1s.

Educational Memorandum on Revised Teachers' Salaries as amended by the Binns Report. 1950. 1s.

Revised Conditions of Service and Revised Salary Scales for Teachers in Government and Assisted Schools. 1950. 2s. 6d.

Report on the Development of Education in Sierra Leone. 1948. 1s. 6d.

Survey of the Secondary Schools in Sierra Leone, with recommendations concerning their curricula. A. E. NICHOLS, 1950. 2s.

- Survey of Technical and Further Education, Sierra Leone and Gambia.* H. C. WESTON and DR. F. J. HARLOW. 1949. 2s.
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FISHERIES

- Report of the Sea Fisheries of Sierra Leone.* 1947. 5s.

FORESTRY

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- Preliminary Report on the Freetown Water Supply.* G. HOWARD HUMPHREYS. 1945. 2s.
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CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

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- Conduct of Ministers.* Sessional Paper No. 3 of 1953. 6d.
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Report of the Commission of Inquiry into Disturbances in the Protectorate (November, 1955 to March, 1956) (Chairman, Sir Herbert Cox). 7s. 6d.

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RAILWAY

Report on Civil Engineering Improvements to reduce operating expenses of the Sierra Leone Government Railway. H. GATFORD, 1948. £1 11s. 6d.

Something about the Sierra Leone Railway: a few notes about its History, what it is doing and what it hopes to do in the future. W. VENNER, 1950. 1s. 6d.

Memorandum on Revision of Railway Salaries. Sessional Paper No. 4 of 1953. 1s.

UNIONS

Report of the Commission into the Railway Workers Union. (Chairman, C. S. T. EDMONDSON). 1s. 3d.

List of Maps of Sierra Leone

(On Sale at the Surveys and Lands Department, New England,
Freetown, Sierra Leone

or at

Messrs. Edward Stanford, Limited, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.)

Title	Scale	Price per Copy		Remarks
		s.	d.	
Atlas of Sierra Leone		12	6	1953 Edition
Wall Map of West Africa	1:2,000,000	£2	0 0	Mounted on linen with rollers
Map of West Africa (School Edition)	1:5,000,000	2	0	
Chiefdom Boundaries Map (and Roads)	1: 500,000	2	0	Fourth Edition, 1956
Physical Map of Sierra Leone	1: 500,000	5	0	Layered 5th Edition, 1957
Map of Sierra Leone showing Admin. Areas and Roads (D.C.S. 981)	1:1,000,000	1	6	4th Edition, 1957
Sierra Leone Colony Sheets Nos. 1 & 2	1: 10,000	3	6	Contoured 1948 Edi- tion Air Survey.
Sierra Leone Colony Sheets Nos. 7, 8, 13 and 14	1: 10,000	2	0	Not contoured 1948 Edition Air Sur- vey
Land Classification Soil Cons. Report Map	1:1,000,000	1	6	1951 Edition. Ori- ginally printed for Soil Cons. Report
Population & Fallows Soil Cons. Report Map	1:1,000,000	1	6	
Degraded Areas Soil Cons. Re- port	1:1,000,000	1	6	
Zones of Production Soils Cons. Report	1:1,000,000	1	6	
Forest Reserves Soil Cons. Re- port	1:1,000,000	1	6	
Vegetation Soil Cons. Report	1:1,000,000	1	6	
S.L. Geological Map	1:1,000,000	2	6	Sunprints
S.L. Soil Map	1:1,000,000	2	6	
S.L. Population Map	1:1,000,000	2	6	
S.L. Agricultural Products	1:1,000,000	2	6	
S.L. Tribal Map	1:1,000,000	2	6	
Vicinity of Freetown, Sheets 1, 2 & 3 (G.S.G.S. 4070)	1: 63,360	3	6	Contoured Sheets 1 & 3 Edition of 1939. Sheet 2 of 1949 and covers Colony Penin- sular
Topographical Maps (Series of 106 sheets)	1: 62,500	2	0	Paper
		3	0	Mounted flat on linen
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Figure I. Natural Regions of Sierra Leone.

- KEY: 1. Land over 1,000 feet.
 2. Coastal plains and swamps.
 3. Outcrop of Rokel River Series.
 4. Outcrop of Kambui Schists.
 5. Approx. Northern Limit of Closed Forest Zone.

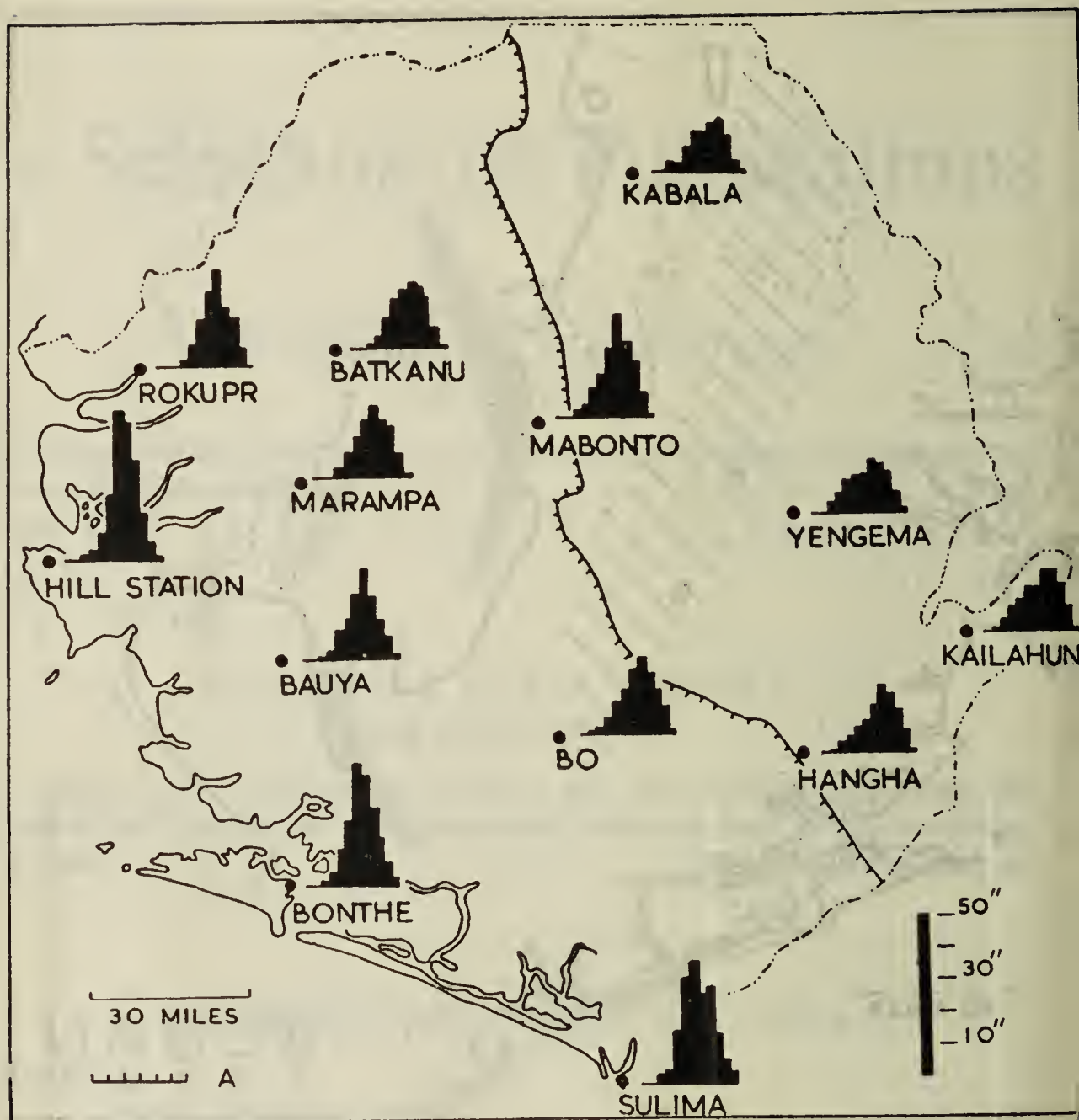


Figure II. Rainfall of Sierra Leone. (Average monthly rainfall in inches at selected stations).

KEY: A. Limit of Highland Zone.



